HEZBOLLAH + FILE - - - 87

Part I

CLOSED

1999

CAS9188-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 02-14 0322
intj 888 nat cai 02 brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Lebanese prime minister praises Hezbollah tactics<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) Lebanon's prime minister declared Sunday that the country ``blesses'' Hezbollah's guerrilla war against Israeli troops and pledged his government's support.

``The resistance movement and its steadfastness in the face of the diabolic Israeli (war) mechanism ... has transformed it into a force to be reckoned with,'' Prime Minister Salim Hoss said.

``They are not aggressors, they are trying to defeat the aggressors,'' he said of the guerrillas.

The Iranian-backed, Shiite Muslim group has led a war of attrition against Israeli troops occupying a strip of southern Lebanon since 1985. Israel lost 24 soldiers in the fighting last year. Unofficial figures put the Hezbollah death toll at 37.

``All of Lebanon blesses the holy war of the fighters to protect Lebanese homes, land and dignity,'' Hoss said.

Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, promised to support the fighters until the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425. He did not say what kind of support his government would provide.

The 1978 resolution calls for an immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon. Israel has demanded security guarantees by the Lebanese government that it will rein in Hezbollah guerrillas following any Israeli withdrawal.

Hoss spoke at a rally in Beirut commemorating the seventh anniversary of the Israeli assassination of Sheik Abbas Musawi, the secretary-general of Hezbollah. He, his wife and son were killed in 1992 when Israeli helicopters fired rockets at his convoy.

Musawi's successor, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, vowed to continue the armed struggle against Israel.

``On this day, we confirm our choice for which there can be no substitute and which is only reinforced as the days and years go by,'' he said in a speech at the rally.

^zk-as<

AP-LD-02-14-99 1601GMT<

CAS0426------
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 06-16 0493
intj 888 nat cal 02 brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^With BC-Lebanon-Israel<
^Hezbollah officials visit area abandoned by pro-Israeli militia<
^By RODEINA KENAAN=
^Associated Press Writer=

JEZZINE, Lebanon (AP) _ Officials of Hezbollah received a low-key welcome Wednesday, less than two weeks after the guerrilla group forced Israeli-backed militiamen out of this mountain area.

Four officials from the Iranian-backed group _ three members of Parliament and the political representative in south Lebanon _ arrived at the Government House while Israeli jets flew over a nearby front line, a nervous reminder of past violence.

The arrival of the Hezbollah officials went largely unnoticed in the town of several thousand, contrasting sharply with President Emile Lahoud's tumultuous welcome by the local population on June 5, two days after the South Lebanon Army withdrawal.

The visit by political representatives instead of guerrilla commanders was a sign that Hezbollah will adhere to its pledge not to enter the vacated area.

The Hezbollah team met with Jezzine officials and heard requests for amnesty for former SLA militiamen.

``We came to congratulate you on liberation,'' said lawmaker Mohammed Raad, head of Hezbollah's Politburo.

Calling Jezzine ``a dear region,'' Raad also sought to reassure the population, majority Christians who have feared revenge attacks, that the Shiite Muslim Hezbollah will not move in.

``Security of this area and its children is under the supervision of the state and there is no job for the resistance on any liberated iota of land,'' he said.

In a reminder of the Israeli menace just south of here near the village of Kfar Houna, Israeli warplanes flew low as the Hezbollah delegation inspected an SLA tank thrown off the road by a guerrilla bomb during the retreat.

Hezbollah's political representative Sheik Abdel-Majid Ammar delivered a kick to the heap of mangled armor before the group quickly got into their vehicles to return to Jezzine.

The SLA abandoned Jezzine and 36 surrounding villages June 3 after the area suffered heavily from fighting. More than 150 militia and 60 civilians died during the 14 years of SLA control. The militia retreated to the Israeli-occupied border zone further south.

There had been fears that Hezbollah might move into the area, turning it into another front line or exacting revenge on some 200 former militiamen who quit the SLA and stayed behind.

Hezbollah chief Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said the guerrillas will not enter the town, but reserved the right to keep attacking the Israelis in the south.

The Lebanese government's presence in Jezzine is limited to a small contingent of policemen.

Beirut has refused to send the army because of concern the move would be construed as providing security guarantees that Israel had long sought as a precondition for withdrawal of its forces from southern Lebanon.

^sfg-rk-zk-tso<

AP-LD-06-16-99 1326GMT<

CA0043E-----

u i BC-Lebanon-Israel 1stLd-Writethru   08-30 0448

brt cai ier nat 888 02 intj

^BC-Lebanon-Israel, 1st Ld-Writethru

^Hezbollah official vows to bomb northern Israel if civilians attacked(

^Eds: UPDATES with comment by Lebanon's defense minister(

^By ZEINA KARAM=

^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ In a move that could escalate tensions in south Lebanon, Hezbollah vowed Monday to fire rockets on northern Israel if Lebanese civilians were attacked.

``Our patience is running out,'' said Sheik Naim Kassem, Hezbollah's deputy secretary general.

``I say to the Israeli government, army, and especially (Israeli) settlers: `As of today, be prepared to be in shelters whenever a (Lebanese) civilian is wounded.''' added Kassem.

Also Monday, Lebanon called on U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who begins a tour of the Middle East later this week, to intercede with Israel to halt its attacks on South Lebanon.

Defense Minister Ghazi Zuetir said Israel was ``seeking to escalate tensions in the south'' ahead of Albright's visit ``to pressure Lebanon and Syria into accepting Israeli conditions'' in the negotiations.

Hezbollah's stern warning came a day after one of its guerrillas was killed and at least six people _ including a 5-year-old boy _ were wounded in Israeli attacks that followed a series of guerrilla attacks.

Kassem said Sunday's attacks against civilians were ``a dangerous development.''

``Our Katyusha rockets are ready to be fired at any moment we deem appropriate,'' Kassem said. ``These rockets will be fired by our brothers and will fall on the (Israeli) settlements in retaliation for the Zionist aggression.''

``Let no one bet on our silence .... Let everyone know that the finger is on the trigger,'' Kassem added.

Kassem spoke in Beirut's southern suburb at the funeral of a Hezbollah fighter killed in battle with Israeli troops in south Lebanon on Thursday.

The last time that the Iranian-backed Hezbollah fired Katyushas on northern Israel was June 24-25, when the guerrillas unleashed a barrage of rockets in retaliation for Israeli recurrent attacks that wounded a number of Lebanese civilians.

The rockets fired into Israel's northern territory were followed by devastating Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon's infrastructure that destroyed two power stations outside Beirut and three bridges that link Beirut with the southern region.

Ten Lebanese civilians were killed and 55 others wounded in the Israeli reprisal.

According to a 1996 U.S.-brokered cease-fire agreement, both Israeli troops occupying a strip of southern Lebanon and Lebanese guerrillas fighting to drive them out must refrain from targeting civilians.

^zk-da

AP-LD-08-30-99 1814GMT(

Hizbullah

CAS1830-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Israel 2ndLd-Writethru 11-12 0571
cai brt jer intj 888 nat 02
^BC-Lebanon-Israel, 2nd Ld-Writethru<
^PRECEDE TYRE<
^Israeli jets hit south Lebanon; civilian, four pro-Israeli militiamen wounded<
^Eds: RECASTS to update with a Lebanese girl and four pro-Israeli militiamen wounded in fighting, new Israeli airstrikes and guerrilla attacks; CHANGES headline and dateline.<

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AP) _ Israel's warplanes staged a series of air raids on suspected guerrilla bases in southern Lebanon on Friday after attacks on its forces and militia allies wounded four militiamen, Lebanese security officials said.

A 17-year-old Lebanese girl was also injured in an exchange of artillery and mortar fire between Israeli troops and Hezbollah guerrillas that followed the air raids, the officials said, speaking on customary condition of anonymity.

They said the girl, who was not identified, was wounded by shrapnel when a rocket fell near her house in Houla, a village a few hundred meters (yards) from the Israeli border. She was rushed to the hospital in Marjayoun, the main town in an Israeli-occupied border enclave in southern Lebanon, the officials said.

Hezbollah guerrillas, marking Martyr's Day, launched a series of rocket and mortar attacks on Israeli and allied militia positions in the occupied zone, wounding four South Lebanon Army militiamen, the officials added.

A total of eight Katyusha rockets fell on the outskirts of Marjayoun at 11:30 a.m. (0930 GMT), causing panic among residents and forcing shopowners and schools to close for the day, the officials said. No casualties were reported in Marjayoun and no group claimed responsibility for the Katyusha barrage.

The air raids came as Hezbollah, the main guerrilla group, reiterated its pledge to continue fighting Israeli occupation forces with the symbolic graduation of 1,245 guerrillas at a Thursday rally. The new recruits replace the number of guerrillas killed in combat in southern Lebanon since 1982.

``We will continue fighting until (Israeli) occupation forces withdraw without conditions,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah's secretary-general, told participants at the rally. ``If more blood is required, let them take our sons.''

Earlier Friday, Israeli jets fired several missiles at valleys southeast of the port city of Tyre, and later near Iqlim al-Tuffah, a Hezbollah mountain stronghold that faces the occupied zone.

No casualties were reported.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli military confirmed the morning raids, saying all planes returned safely to base after attacking ``terrorist targets'' outside the occupied zone.

The valleys have been the target of a series of Israeli airstrikes in recent weeks. The area is believed to be used by Lebanese guerrillas as a launching pad for attacks on Israeli troops and SLA militiamen in the occupied zone.

Friday's airstrikes came after attacks by Hezbollah and a radical Palestinian group on Israeli and SLA outposts in the occupied zone.

Islamic Jihad, which has been active in the West Bank and Gaza, maintains offices in Lebanon and Syria but has rarely participated in the south Lebanon fighting.

Hezbollah is fighting a war of attrition to oust some 1,500 Israeli soldiers and the 2,500 SLA militiamen from the occupied zone. Israel contends that he zone, set up in 1985, is necessary to protect its northern territory from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

^str-hd-tso<
AP-LD-11-12-99 1223GMT<

AP-LD-12-15-99 1037GMT<

Israel

CAV9824------
u i BC-Lebanon-Israel 1stLd-Writethru 12-15 0464
cai brt intj 888 02 nat jer
^BC-Lebanon-Israel, 1st Ld-Writethru
^Heavy fighting in south Lebanon before Syrian-Israeli talks<
^Eds: UPDATES with comments by Hezbollah leader<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Heavy fighting flared Wednesday in southern Lebanon, the last active war front of the Arab-Israeli conflict, leaving two civilians injured, Lebanese officials said.

The fighting occurred as Syrian and Israeli negotiators were set to resume peace talks in Washington, signaling the dominant Hezbollah guerrilla group's determination to continue fighting.

In a newspaper interview, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said ``resistance will continue until Israel's full withdrawal'' from south Lebanon. Israel has occupied about 10 percent of Lebanon since 1982 to protect its northern towns from guerrilla attacks.

On Wednesday, Israeli warplanes fired missiles after guerrillas of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah launched a series of attacks on the Israeli-occupied zone, security officials said.

Israeli artillery gunners retaliated and the Hezbollah responded by firing mortars and katyusha rockets on the occupied zone, said the officials. They spoke on customary condition of anonymity.

A woman was wounded when a shell apparently fired from guerrilla-held territory hit her house in the Israeli-occupied village of Beit Yahoun, the officials said.

A 155 mm artillery shell fired from the occupied zone landed near the market town of Nabatiyeh. A shrapnel hit a van and set it blaze, injuring the driver, the officials said.

An Israeli defense spokesman in Jerusalem confirmed the airstrikes and said all planes returned safely.

Containing the violence by Lebanese guerrilla before an Israeli military withdrawal from South Lebanon was expected to be discussed by Israel and Syria at the Washington talks.

Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon, maintains 30,000 troops here.

Nasrallah, the Hezbollah chief, said the Syrian-Israeli talks do not change anything.

``I do not think either the Lebanese or the Syrian officials would pressure Hezbollah to stop its attacks,'' Nasrallah said in an interview to Egypt's Al-Ahram weekly. It is to be published Thursday and an advance copy was made available to The Associated Press.

In Wednesday's fighting, Hezbollah officials in Beirut said fighters stormed the Sojod outpost, which is primarily manned by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army.

The officials, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Hezbollah fighters raised their yellow banner on the hilltop base, which has a commanding view of the guerrilla stronghold of Iqlim al-Tuffah.

Hezbollah has occupied the outpost briefly several times in the past before retreating under heavy Israeli fire.

^sfg/vj<

AP-LD-12-15-99 1048GMT<

CAV7240-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 03-05 0552
brt cai intj 888 02 nat
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Hezbollah chief says Israel's `ego' holding up Lebanon pullout
^AP Photo BEI-101
^By SAM F. GHATTAS=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of Hezbollah guerrillas said Friday that the idea of Israeli military invincibility has already been destroyed and blamed Israeli ``ego'' for not withdrawing from southern Lebanon.

``Unconditional withdrawal is admission of defeat,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah told reporters in an interview at the Hezbollah stronghold of south Beirut.

``It is difficult for the legendary army and the state which enjoys hegemony and superiority in the region to admit defeat ... especially (since) Lebanon is the weakest of Arab countries,'' he said.

Even though Israeli leaders are convinced they cannot end the war with Lebanese guerrillas in southern Lebanon, Israel will not pull out. ``The problem is the Israeli ego,'' he said.

Nasrallah was speaking to reporters for the first time since his fighters killed Israel's top commander in southern Lebanon on Sunday. Six other Israelis, including another senior officer, were killed since Feb. 23, prompting Israel to launch airstrikes on guerrilla bases and threaten all-out war.

Since Sunday, guerrilla leaders have gone underground and some positions have been vacated.

``We are cautious and keen not to leave any crack through which the enemy could infiltrate and strike,'' the black-bearded Shiite Muslim cleric said.

Nasrallah also promised continued attacks, saying the Hezbollah has the right to fire rockets on northern Israel to ``deter'' Israeli troops from attacking civilians in southern Lebanon.

Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed Shiite group, is the largest among the guerrilla organizations in Lebanon trying to oust Israeli forces that occupy much of southern Lebanon _ 10 percent of Lebanese territory _ to protect its northern towns from guerrilla attacks.

About 1,500 Israeli soldiers patrol the south, aided by 2,500 local Lebanese militiamen.

The occupied territory, called ``security zone'' by Israel, was set up in 1985 following Israel's 1982 invasion. Since then, 901 Israeli soldiers have been killed in southern Lebanon.

Sunday's death of Brig. Gen. Ezer Gerstein, the highest ranking officer to be killed in southern Lebanon, was the worst blow the Israeli military has suffered. It pushed the occupation to center stage in the campaigning for Israel's May 17 elections.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and opposition Labor leader Ehud Barak have both promised to bring the troops home.

But Netanyahu has demanded guarantees from Lebanon that it would keep Hezbollah in check if Israeli troops withdrew. The Lebanese government has refused, saying it can not be Israel's policeman.

Nasrallah also said the Hezbollah's mission is not to ``provide guarantees and assurances to anyone.''

He refused to say if the Hezbollah would take its fight into Israel if it ever withdrew from Lebanon.

``We keep this card hidden,'' he said.

Nasrallah noted that Israel also was concerned about the implications of a pullout.

A retreat from Lebanon could prompt Palestinians to abandon the troubled peace negotiations with Israel and take up guns once again, he said.

^stg/vj<

AP-LD-03-05-99 1600GMT<

RTT1641-----
u ibx
233 87 jer cai
^BC-FEA-Lebanon-Declaring Victory, 2 Takes,0679(
^Hezbollah army touts its own survival as triumph over Israel(
^AP Photos NY354-355 of March 29(
^By LAURA KING=
^Associated Press Writer=

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) _ To hear leaders of the Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah tell it, a piece of grainy videotape is prime proof of an extraordinary contention: That their guerrilla war against Israel is all but won.

In the flickering footage shot in February by the Israeli military in southern Lebanon, a fighter from the Iranian-backed militia is chased by an Israeli helicopter, dodging bullets and shrapnel as he flees across a rocky landscape. The hunted man, blocked from view just before a rocket explosion sends up a cloud of debris, appears doomed.

But days later, a wounded man whose appearance and account of events matched those of the fighter in the tape turned up in a Lebanese hospital. Recounting his story to reporters, raising his bandaged hands in a victory salute, he was hailed by Hezbollah as the guerrilla who got away.

``With all its air power and sophisticated weaponry, (Israel) was unable to capture one Hezbollah fighter,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, the group's leader, boasted to reporters afterward.

Increasingly, Hezbollah is portraying its simple survival as a battlefield triumph _ the latest refinement in a long and largely successful campaign to shape the rules of engagement in southern Lebanon to its own advantage.

With only a few hundred fighters, Hezbollah has no wish to confront Israel's powerful army head-on. Instead, its strategy is to engage Israeli troops and allied Lebanese militiamen with carefully laid ambushes, hit-and-run mortar attacks and radio-detonated roadside bombs like the one that killed an Israeli brigadier general and three other Israelis on Feb. 28.

Just five days before that bombing, guerrillas ambushed an elite Israeli commando squad, killing its commander and two officers and wounding five soldiers.

``Hezbollah sets the pace, and the Israelis are left to react to events,'' said Timur Goksel, senior adviser to the commander of United Nations peacekeepers in southern Lebanon. ``It's a hell of a way to wear down an enemy.''

Always good at melting into the landscape, the guerrillas get better at it all the time.

These days, fighters favor unobtrusive movement in and out of the battle zone on motorbikes, singly or in pairs. Eschewing giveaway dress like traditional baggy pants or the beards worn by observant Shiite Muslims, they look instead like any young men on an outing _ clean-shaven, clad in jeans, hair slicked back with gel.

Those familiar with Hezbollah's operations describe its fighters as highly disciplined, innovative in their tactics, methodical in planning and intimately familiar with the rugged terrain.

While many of the Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon are in their early 20s or even their teens, Hezbollah fields mainly veterans with six or seven years of combat under their belts.

``Guerrilla warfare is very hard to teach _ it's a matter of experience,'' said Goksel, who has spent 20 years in Lebanon's south. ``And they have that.''

Hezbollah, which once staged crude and costly human-wave attacks on Israeli positions, still prides itself on its ability to absorb casualties. But its traditional glorification of suicide attacks has given way to a more pragmatic military ethic.

``We love martyrdom and are proud of our martyrs,'' Nasrallah told reporters recently. ``At the same time, we are keen that we don't have big losses _ we want our mujahedeen (holy warriors) to stay alive.''

Another Hezbollah hallmark is adaptability. Over the years, it has made limited but effective use of technology suited to its needs _ night-vision equipment to counter Israelis' former advantage in darkness, hard-to-spot roadside bombs of plastic explosives hidden in fiberglass ``rocks,'' and armor-piercing rockets capable of destroying Merkavas, the mammoth battle tanks that were the pride of Israel's military.

MORE

Hezbollah

CAC0919-----
u i BC-Syria-Iran 4thLd-Writethru 05-15 0651
cai intj 888 nat 02 brt ier uae wdc
^BC-Syria-Iran, 4th Ld-Writethru
^Khatami praises Hezbollah fight against Israel in Lebanon(
^Eds: SUBS 8th graf to ADD Hezbollah has denied receiving arms from Iran; fixes style to Druse, sted Druze in 11th graf; INSERTS new 14th graf to ADD agreements reached.(
^By ZEINA KARAM=
^Associated Press Writer=
^AP Photo DAM101(

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) _ Iranian President Mohammad Khatami hailed the Hezbollah guerrilla group Saturday as an ``ideological and humanitarian movement'' that is trying to liberate Lebanese territory from Israeli occupation.

Khatami's remarks following a meeting with Hezbollah's Secretary-General Sheik Hassan Nasrallah came a day after he pledged support for Palestinians opposed to the Mideast peace process.

Khatami's meeting with leaders of militant Palestinian factions and his strong support for continued resistance against Israel ``worries'' the United States, Martin Indyk, the U.S. State Department's envoy to the Near East said in an interview with the Lebanese daily As-Safir.

``It is hard not to conclude that Iran is still strongly opposed to the peace process and backs these organizations that adopt the policy of violence against the process,'' the paper quoted Indyk as saying Saturday.

Tehran's support for hard-line Palestinian groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which have launched bombing campaigns in Israel, has been condemned by the United States.

Washington has made cautious overtures to Iran following the May 1997 election of Khatami, who represents a new moderation in Tehran. His election prompted a series of tentative feelers on both sides, but President Bill Clinton's offer of a dialogue has been rejected by Tehran.

In the As-Safir interview, Indyk criticized Iran for failing to respond adequately to the U.S. overtures.

Khatami met Saturday with Nasrallah under tight security at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus. In addition to moral and political support from Tehran, Hezbollah _ though it denies it _ is thought to receive arms and financial backing from the Islamic republic.

Hezbollah is ``an ideological and humanitarian movement that seeks liberation and independence,'' Khatami said in remarks carried by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency.

Hezbollah, he said, was trying ``to protect the unity and independence of Lebanese territories.''

The Iranian president also met Saturday with a senior Shiite Muslim Lebanese cleric, Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, who is widely thought to be Hezbollah's spiritual guide. And he held talks with Lebanese Druse leader Walid Jumblatt and Lebanese members of parliament.

Before leaving for Saudi Arabia, Khatami held separate meetings with Syrian President Hafez Assad and his son, Bashar.

In a statement issued by the presidential palace, Syria and Iran called for an end to Israeli occupation of Arab territories, including an unconditional troop pullout from southern Lebanon. They also described Israeli airstrikes in Lebanon as ``a primary reason for increased tension and instability in the region.''

The two sides also signed agreements in areas including naval transport, customs, judicial cooperation and tourism. The statement did not give details.

Khatami's visit to Saudi Arabia, a continuation of his effort to improve Iran's often-troubled ties with its Arab neighbors, is the first by an Iranian president since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution. Saudi King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, whose 1997 visit to Iran opened the door for better relations, greeted Khatami at the airport in the Red Sea port city of Jiddah.

In Saudi Arabia, Khatami was expected to discuss increased oil and economic cooperation between the two Gulf heavyweights, inaugurate a new Iranian consulate in Jiddah and visit the Islamic holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

^pvs-mae-sjs(

AP-LD-05-15-99 1742GMT(

CAZ6853-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 1stLd-Writethru 05-30 0653
cai intj 888 nat 02 jer brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st Ld-Writethru(
^Guerrilla leader: Hezbollah won't use Jezzine to attack Israelis(
^Eds: UPDATES in last two grafs with Israel TV report that Lahd wants to step down.(
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of Hezbollah promised Sunday that his Shiite Muslim guerrillas will not enter Jezzine and harass its Christian inhabitants when Israeli-allied militiamen withdraw from the southern Lebanese town.

Also, Hezbollah fighters will not use Jezzine as a base for attacks against Israeli troops and their allies in the Israeli-occupied enclave, said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Iranian-backed guerrilla group.

They will, however, continue launching attacks on Israelis and the South Lebanon Army militiamen from areas around Jezzine, Nasrallah added.

Nasrallah renewed an offer to SLA militiamen to surrender to Lebanese authorities ``before it's too late.''

``Following an (SLA) withdrawal, when there will also be no Israeli troops, a liberated Jezzine will no longer be a scene of (Hezbollah) operations,'' Nasrallah said.

There are fears among the Christian population in Jezzine that once the SLA leaves, the guerrillas would move in to take revenge against suspected collaborators with Israel or use the area as a launching pad for attacks against Israeli troops and SLA militiamen in the occupied zone, thus inviting retaliation.

``There is no reason for worry after the militia's withdrawal from Jezzine,'' Nasrallah said.

But, he added: ``The Jezzine area will be like the rest of Lebanese areas which embrace and protect the resistance.''

Nasrallah spoke at a news conference at a secret location in Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold, on the eve of an imminent SLA withdrawal from Jezzine, 27 kilometers (17 miles) north of the Israeli border.

Nasrallah said he expected the militia pullout from Jezzine to take place in the next 24 or 48 hours.

He said a surge in Hezbollah attacks on Israeli troops and allied militiamen had prompted SLA commander Antoine Lahd to decide on withdrawing from Jezzine.

The SLA has suffered serious setbacks in the Jezzine area because of guerrilla roadside bombs. The SLA commander in Jezzine was killed on May 4 and his predecessor was seriously injured in April. Since 1982, 154 SLA militiamen have been killed in Jezzine and 443 wounded. Forty-two civilians also have been killed.

The 2,500-strong SLA is paid, armed and trained by Israel to help its 1,500 troops patrol the occupied zone.

Some 100 SLA militiamen control Jezzine and Israel considers Jezzine outside the occupied zone.

Nasrallah said the almost daily Israeli airstrikes on southern Lebanon were designed ``to raise the militia's morale and provide protection for the withdrawal from Jezzine.''

He renewed Hezbollah's offer to SLA militiamen to defect and surrender to Lebanese authorities.

``The agents .... should surrender to the Lebanese judiciary and say they are ready for a fair trial. Reject the occupation before it's too late,'' he said.

Nasrallah had offered amnesty to the SLA militiamen who defect before an Israeli withdrawal from the south.

The Lebanese government has been prosecuting pro-Israeli militiamen as traitors. In 1996, a military court sentenced Lahd to death in absentia for treason.

Lebanon, which is technically at war with Israel, forbids dealing or contacts with the Jewish state.

Israeli television reported Sunday that Lahd wants to step down as SLA commander and may go and live in France or Israel. It said the Israeli army asked him not to make any decisions until Ehud Barak form a new government in Israel.

Barak, who defeated Benjamin Netanyahu in the May 17 election, has said he will withdraw Israeli troops from Lebanon within a year.

^hd-dl-sf(

AP-LD-05-30-99 1814GMT(

```
Doc: 00279732 DB: research_d_99_1 Date: Fri Mar  5 13:40:51 1999
   Alert Categories:      def wie
   Profiler Categories:  Defense Wiesen

*** Version history. (* = this story, F = final version) ***

CD6R62AC00 03/05/99 13:40:51*F BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah:Hezbollah chief says Is
```

Copyright 1999 By The Associated Press. All Rights Reserved.

C2749-----
r ibx
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah,471<
^Hezbollah chief says +Israel+'s `ego' holding up +Lebanon+ pullout<
^By SAM F. GHATTAS=
^Associated Press Writer=
^With AP Photo BEI101<

BEIRUT, +Lebanon+ (AP) _ The leader of Hezbollah guerrillas said Friday that the idea of Israeli military invincibility has already been destroyed and blamed Israeli ``ego'' for not withdrawing from southern +Lebanon+.

``Unconditional withdrawal is admission of defeat,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said in an interview at the Hezbollah stronghold of southern Beirut.

``It is difficult for the legendary army and the state which enjoys hegemony and superiority in the region to admit defeat ... especially (since) +Lebanon+ is the weakest of Arab countries,'' he said.

Even though Israeli leaders believe they cannot end the war with Lebanese guerrillas, +Israel+ will not pull out. ``The problem is the Israeli ego,'' he said.

Nasrallah spoke to reporters for the first time since his fighters on Sunday killed +Israel+'s top commander in southern +Lebanon+. Six other Israelis, including another senior officer, have been killed since Feb. 23, prompting +Israel+ to launch airstrikes on guerrilla bases and threaten all-out war.

Since Sunday, guerrilla leaders have gone underground and vacated some positions, the black-bearded Shiite Muslim cleric said.

Nasrallah also promised more attacks, saying the Hezbollah has the right to fire rockets on northern +Israel+ to ``deter'' Israeli troops from attacking civilians in southern +Lebanon+.

Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed Shiite group, is the largest guerrilla organizations in +Lebanon+ trying to oust Israeli forces that occupy a southern zone _ 10 percent of Lebanese territory _ to ward off attacks on northern +Israel+.

About 1,500 Israeli soldiers patrol the ``security zone,'' aided by 2,500 local Lebanese militiamen.

The zone was set up in 1985 after +Israel+'s 1982 invasion. Since then, 901 Israeli soldiers have been killed in southern +Lebanon+.

Sunday's death of Brig. Gen. Ezer Gerstein, the highest ranking officer to be killed in southern +Lebanon+, was the worst blow the Israeli military has suffered. It pushed the occupation to center stage in the campaigning for +Israel+'s May 17 elections.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and opposition Labor leader Ehud Barak have both promised to bring the troops home.

But Netanyahu has demanded guarantees from +Lebanon+ that it would keep Hezbollah in check if Israeli troops withdrew. The Lebanese government has refused, saying it cannot be +Israel+'s policeman.

Nasrallah refused to say if Hezbollah would take its fight into +Israel+ if it ever withdrew from +Lebanon+.

``We keep this card hidden,'' he said.

Nasrallah also believes that an Israeli retreat from +Lebanon+ could prompt Palestinians to abandon the troubled peace negotiations and again take up arms.

RTT1306-----
r ibx
233 87
^BC-FEA-Team Hezbollah,0704
^In Lebanon, for the first year, it's soccer Hezbollah-style
^AP Photo BEI103
^By ANTHONY SHADID=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ On a sandy lot shadowed by the low-slung buildings of Beirut's slums, young men train diligently at dusk. They're rugged, they're disciplined and many of them are fired by the faith that fires Lebanon's Hezbollah.

But guerrillas they're not.

Rather, they play soccer for a team that is a standard-bearer of the radical Islamic movement, competing for the first time in the country's top soccer league.

The team, al-Ahd, is yet another twist in the story of a group better known for fighting Israeli forces in southern Lebanon and still shadowed by its suspected role, in its early days, in the bombing of a Marine barracks in 1983 and the kidnappings of foreigners in Lebanon.

Now, like Islamic groups across the Muslim world, it's as well known in Lebanon for its hospitals, clinics and schools. So, why not soccer? And why not soccer with what it considers the proper attitude of devout Shiite Muslims?

``The morals of Hezbollah are on the field, and they reflect on how we play our opponents,'' said Youssef al-Jawheri, a 21-year-old player. ``We have a moral responsibility.''

That responsibility translates into not a single red or yellow flag last year and the fewest of any team this year. Its fans are the best behaved.

And the players make clear their code: Don't argue with referees, don't pick fights and always take heckling in stride.

In Lebanon, a country of 18 sects that is scarred by years of sectarian war, religion infuses everything: from the candidate for president to the choice for the lowliest government job.

Most of the national league's 14 soccer teams, too, are colored by faith. The Druse have a team and so do the Maronite Christians.

Even the Armenians have two teams, one faithful to Armenian leftists, the other loyal to the community's right-wing.

But with al-Ahd, whose affiliation is best known, the team plays down any political connections. Instead, it's all about soccer, well-behaved soccer, in a field where other fans can get so rowdy that some games last year had to be closed to the public.

``Any movement in Lebanon _ be it sports, politics or economics _ will have political implications,'' said Hajj Amin al-Shiri, al-Ahd's president, whose office in southern Beirut has a box marked for donations to Hezbollah guerrillas.

``But it's our goal to keep politics away from sports,'' he said.

The team's board _ run by sympathizers of the Islamic movement _ says it would welcome any player, regardless of faith. Among the team's 30 full-time players, including four foreigners _ from Jordan, Iraq, Senegal and Nigeria _ only one Christian now competes.

His name is Henry Ajama, from Nigeria.

''Religion or no religion, my only concern is to play,'' he said. ''All I know is that we all have one God.''

But for some fans, the team is part of their politics _ namely, support for a movement that is growing more popular through its extensive welfare services, its clean image in a country with rampant corruption, and the success of its guerrillas, known as the Islamic resistance.

''The fans love the resistance, and they see the team as their representatives,'' said Abu Hussein Sarour, a 25-year-old from Bint Jbeil, a town occupied by Israel in southern Lebanon.

Saturday was game day, and the match itself a microcosm of Lebanon: al-Ahd played al-Hikma, a Christian team, in a Druse neighborhood at a stadium plastered with slogans for the Druse political party.

Fans of Al-Ahd, currently ranked a mediocre but respectable eighth, turned out in droves. Like Hezbollah itself, they were well-organized and ardent, waving flags and placards and beating a drum to chants blared through a megaphone.

The match was scoreless most of the way, but al-Ahd's following kept up the fervor, gasping at each missed goal, applauding each save.

Occasionally, they shouted to the goalie, ''God be with you.''

Perhaps he was. Al-Ahd won 1-0.

May 20, 1998

CAB5841----------
u i BC-Hezbollah-Glance 05-15 0322
cai brt int inte
^BC-Hezbollah-Glance
^Facts and figures on Hezbollah's work in Lebanon
^With BC-Hezbollah's Future
^By The Associated Press=

A look at Hezbollah's work in Lebanon.

^____=

HISTORY _ Formed in 1982 with Iranian help during Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Began as a radical offshoot of Amal, a Shiite Muslim movement that remains its biggest competitor. Linked to the bombing of a U.S. Marine barracks in 1983, bombings of two American Embassy buildings and the kidnappings of more than 50 foreigners. Moderated in recent years, emerging as leading political force.

CONSTITUENCY _ Draws its support from Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiite Muslims, country's biggest sect but long neglected by the government. Popular in southern Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon, and the poor southern suburbs of Beirut.

SOCIAL SERVICES _ Like Islamic movements elsewhere, operates network of affordable social services: nine schools, three hospitals, 13 dental clinics. Provides drinking water to slums of Beirut, repairs roads and rebuilds homes destroyed in fighting in south. Hezbollah refuses to disclose budget, but Iran thought to provide dlrs 10 million to dlrs 20 million a month.

MILITARY _ Believed to have between 300 and 1,000 fighters, facing an Israeli force of 1,500 soldiers and 2,500 allied militiamen. Armed mainly with mortars, rockets, rocket-propelled grenades and rifles. Training and intelligence have improved. Last year, set up the Lebanese Brigades, an allied force open to any religious sect that wants to take part in the guerrilla war.

POLITICS _ Factions remain within the movement, but Sheik Hassan Nasrallah exercises clear control as secretary-general. Operates television and radio stations and weekly newspaper. Seven members serve in Parliament, down from eight. Serve as an opposition, vocal on corruption, cost of living and unemployment.

^as-ggl<

AP-LD-05-15-98 1432GMT<

CAB5839--------
u i BC-Hezbollah'sFuture 05-15 1186
cai brt int inte
^BC-Hezbollah's Future
^From militia to movement, Hezbollah faces uncertain future
^With BC-Hezbollah-Military, BC-Hezbollah-Glance
^AP Photos BEI104-108 of May 15
^By ANTHONY SHADID=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Lebanon's Hezbollah, a shadowy band of militants that has transformed itself into a formidable popular movement, should be the envy of guerrilla groups anywhere.

Its dedicated fighters number only in the hundreds, yet they are threatening to oust the Israeli army, one of the world's toughest, from the rocky, rolling hills of Lebanon's south. Its spies have infiltrated Israel's allied militia. And its struggle has won it surging popularity across a country whose very name evokes images of discord and civil war.

But an Israeli withdrawal _ an idea touted more and more by an Israeli government conscious of the war's unpopularity at home _ may pose the Islamic group its greatest challenge since it was forged from the chaos and strife of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Ironically, victory over Israel could amount to a setback.

``The war has given the party a great deal of power, a great deal of prestige and a great deal of recognition,'' said Farid el Khazen, a Lebanese analyst and professor at the American University of Beirut. ``Without the war, Hezbollah will be deflated.''

Already, its leaders are pondering what comes next, and the speculation drives to the heart of Hezbollah's identity.

Having transformed itself from a militia to a movement, can it overhaul itself yet again? More important, what future shape will Hezbollah take in the unruly tumult of Lebanese politics: charity organization, political party or grass-roots movement?

Today's Hezbollah is a far cry from the feared group linked to the 1983 bombing of a U.S. Marine barracks, which killed 240 Americans, and the kidnapping of more than 50 foreigners amid the anarchy that defined Lebanon during its 1975-90 civil war.

Abroad, the attacks brought it the notoriety it is still trying to live down; the U.S. State Department, for one, insists it still engages in terrorism. At home, its zeal in smashing up Beirut bars or banning card-playing at cafes as un-Islamic bolstered its already robust image as a collection of religious fanatics.

In recent years, however, Hezbollah has gone from issuing religious edicts declaring the Lebanese government criminal to running candidates in elections for its parliament.

It neither can nor wants to shed its image as a religious party representing Shiite Muslims, Lebanon's largest sect, but its leaders routinely speak out about unemployment and the spiraling cost of living, complaints voiced by other opposition parties.

And from years of secrecy and shunning outsiders, the group now runs a sophisticated press office, its well-dressed functionaries carrying cellular phones and volunteering an e-mail address. It owns a television and radio station, publishes a weekly newspaper and advertises a web site. It even has a soccer team.

``The tools of Hezbollah have changed and the way it works has changed,'' said Nayef Kraim, the group's spokesman.

By far, though, the group draws its greatest support from success in the battlefield. With Syrian and Iranian backing, it launches dozens of raids every month to dislodge an Israeli army that has controlled southern Lebanon for 20 years _ by itself or through allied militias _ as a way of guarding its northern border.

Last month, Hezbollah attacked Israel and its allies 117 times, the largest number of raids in more than a decade.

The attacks in April followed Israel's declaration that it would withdraw if it received security guarantees _ a proposal that Hezbollah read as a sign of approaching victory. While not saying that it would stop fighting, Hezbollah has made clear that once Israel withdraws, the Lebanese army will take over in the south _ a promise many in Lebanon read as a tacit pledge to end the war.

But that success makes many ponder the future. While few in Lebanon doubt Hezbollah will eventually win, many are questioning what comes next. Even Hezbollah cadres acknowledge the uncertainty.

``We don't expect to be heroes forever,'' admits Mohammed Hijazi, a director of a Hezbollah-run hospital in Beirut.

In the aftermath, the Lebanese government will likely demand that Hezbollah surrender its weapons. The war's end may require, as well, a departure from the martial image the group has long fostered: Its fighters are called mujahideen, or religious warriors, and its banner features a fist clutching a Kalashnikov rifle.

Publicly, the movement does not worry.

``Hezbollah has become a part of the Lebanese fabric, and it has a part in the political and social reality,'' Sheik Naim Kassem, the group's deputy leader, said in an interview. ``Its role is not limited to the resistance to the occupation only.''

Indeed, it has already proven that. It spends tens of millions of dollars a year _ made possible by Iran _ to run nine schools and three hospitals, provide drinking water to Beirut's Shiite Muslim slums, support families of slain guerrillas and rebuild homes damaged in the war.

For some, that helping hand could ensure Hezbollah's continued popularity among the poor, even after the war ends.

``People love the people who serve them,'' said Adel Ollaik, who runs a Hezbollah hospital in Nabatiyeh, a town within eyesight of Israeli positions. ``After the war, Hezbollah will succeed more because the social institutions will become stronger.''

Others see the charity as only a step in Hezbollah's pursuit of its political ambitions, unfettered by the burdens of waging war but coping with a loss of the popularity won in the struggle.

The movement still supports the creation of an Iranian-style Islamic state, but it rarely declares so in public. In interviews, its leaders say Hezbollah will push the idea through dialogue, not force, and acknowledge that the reality of 18 sects in a country still scarred by communal war rules out an Islamic state soon.

The new arena is the 128-member parliament, where seven members already sit. Like other Islamic parties, they rail against the corruption and cronyism endemic to Lebanon's capitalism. As a party, too, they benefit from playing the role of the opposition.

In fact, the war's end could make possible another step in the movement's moderation and maturity: from militants to successful guerrillas to a grass-roots movement competing in Lebanese politics _ a transformation some call its ``Lebanonization.''

But without the support it derives from the war, many say, the movement will inevitably become much more vulnerable.

As political party or charity group, it stands to lose stature.

``Hezbollah's leadership today is very pragmatic and very much in tune with Lebanese communal politics,'' said Khazen, the analyst. ``They are efficient, well-organized and they play the game well.''

``But the game,'' he added, ``will become more competitive.''

^as-ggl<

AP-LD-05-15-98 1431GMT<

*CAB105-------

u i Lebanon-Hezbollah 09-15 0202
intj 888 nat cai 02 brt
^Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Government names street after late son of Hezbollah chief<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The mayor of Beirut on Tuesday named a street in the capital for the son of the leader of the Hezbollah guerrilla movement, who was killed last year in south Lebanon.

The street links the capital with its southern suburbs, which are heavily populated by Shiite Muslims.

The announcement by Mayor Nicolas Saba came during a commemoration marking the first anniversary of the death of Hadi Nasrallah.

Nasrallah, 18, was killed in clashes with Israeli troops last Sept. 13. He was the son of Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, leader of Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God.

Hezbollah has led the fight to drive Israeli troops and their militia allies from southern Lebanon. Israel created a self-styled ``security zone'' in south Lebanon in 1985 to protect against cross-border guerrilla attacks.

``This street carries the name of Hadi Hassan Nasrallah, but also the names of all other martyrs who died fighting for the dignity of Lebanon,'' Saba said in naming the street.

Nasrallah's body was returned during a swap between Israel and Lebanon in June.

^RK-eap<

*AP-LD-09-15-98 1712GMT<

ATT5165------
u ibx
cai brt intj 888 02 nat
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st Ld-Writethru
^Nasrallah reelected Hezbollah chief
^Eds: RESTORES dropped word in 6th graf; FIXES overline

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the militant pro-Iranian Hezbollah group has been reelected as the party's secretary-general for a third consecutive term, local newspapers said Wednesday.

As-Safir newspaper said the party's congress, which had been convening for a month in a secret location in Beirut's southern suburbs, held its final session Tuesday, extending Sheik Hassan Nasrallah's term for another three years.

There was no immediate comment from Hezbollah's press office.

The party's charter, which limits the tenure of a secretary-general to a maximum of two consecutive, three-year terms, was amended to allow for Nasrallah's reelection, As-Safir said in its front-page report.

Nasrallah's deputy, Sheikh Naim Kassem, party politburo chief Mohammed Raad and key members of the party's seven-men Shura Council, the ruling body, also retained their posts, As-Safir and other newspapers said.

Nasrallah, 44, was elected Hezbollah's secretary-general for the first time in February 1992, two days after his predecessor, Sheik Abbas Musawi, was killed in an Israeli helicopter gunship ambush in South Lebanon.

He is the party's third secretary-general since it was founded in 1982.

Hezbollah, or Party of God, is the main guerrilla group fighting to oust Israeli troops occupying parts of southern Lebanon.

The party under Nasrallah's leadership has also made significant strides on the political front, with seven representatives in Lebanon's 128-seat legislature. Hezbollah scored major gains in municipal elections held recently across the country.

^zk/vj

29-7-98

RTT7260-----
u ibx
inti 888 nat brt cai 02
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Despite past, Hezbollah says wants dialogue with Americans
^By ANTHONY SHADID=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)   Hezbollah, a movement linked to the bombing of a U.S. Marine barracks in 1983 and kidnappings of Americans and other foreigners, wants dialogue with Americans and a better image in the West, a spokesman said Tuesday.

But the overture _ a reversal of years of bloody enmity _ goes only so far. Better ties with the U.S. government, which Hezbollah still regularly derides, are impossible as long as it supports Israel, said Nayef Kraim, the Hezbollah spokesman.

''I don't think there is the possibility for considering official relations with the United States of America,'' he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

''As for American society and the American people, there is no problem at all.''

In fact, making such contacts, he said, was ''a required task.''

The call, which follows a similar initiative by Iran, the group's sponsor and spiritual guide, comes after a U.S. State Department declaration last month that the Islamic group still takes part in terrorism. It said Iran remains the world's ''most active'' sponsor.

Hezbollah, a leading force in Lebanon where its network of schools, hospitals and welfare services brings it popularity, is fighting a guerrilla war to oust Israel from a strip of land it occupies in southern Lebanon to protect its northern border.

With Iranian and Syrian support, Hezbollah fighters have launched hundreds of attacks on Israeli forces and their allies this year, increasing pressure for Israel to withdraw from rugged hills and valleys that it has controlled for more than 20 years.

In Lebanon, its fight has brought it support. But the movement, created during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, is still trying to play down a terrorist image born of kidnappings and horrific bombings _ events seared into the minds of many Americans.

Hezbollah has long denied any role in the attack on the U.S. Marine barracks, which killed 240 people, the twin bombings of American Embassy buildings or the abduction of at least 50 Americans, Frenchmen, Britons, Germans and other foreigners at the height of the anarchy that reigned during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war. But groups that claimed responsibility were widely believed to be operating under Hezbollah's then-shadowy umbrella.

Today, it has transformed itself into one of Lebanon's most successful political movements. Its leaders can draw tens of thousands of Shiite Muslim supporters into the streets. Seven members sit in parliament, and its message is carried by its own television and radio stations, a weekly newspaper and a web site.

The group's openness is part of its attempt to change what Kraim describes as ''its distorted image,'' particularly in the West, and contacts with Americans stand as a logical step.

''It will help in improving the image of each other and, at the same time, the perception of the American people,'' he said.

Its ideology _ support for an Islamic state in a country with 18 officially recognized religious sects _ remains intact, Kraim said.

But it will usher in the idea by persuasion, not force, he said. ''The means of Hezbollah have changed and the way it works has changed in recent years.''

Occasionally, though, the rhetoric of the past resurfaces.

At a march last week to commemorate the death of Shiite Islam's most revered saint, thousands of Hezbollah supporters chanted ''America is the great Satan.'' At the front of the rally, a banner read, ''Our enemies forever: America and Israel.''

^as-jbm

RTT5083-----
r ibx
233 87
^BC-US-Terrorism. 3rd Ld.0075(

^Albright designates 30 foreign groups as terrorist organizations(

^Eds: UPDATES to include freezing assets(

^By GEORGE GEDDA=
^Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) Hoping to dry up support for terrorism, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright took steps Wednesday to block fund raising, freeze assets and punish U.S. backers of 30 foreign organizations she designated as terrorist groups.

The list included 13 Islamic organizations in the Middle East along with two Israeli groups. Also on the list were a number of Asian and Latin American groups. Missing were the Irish Republican Army and the Palestine Liberation Organization, both on past U.S. lists.

Albright's action was in response to a 1996 law designed to stop fund raising in the United States by and on behalf of organizations that engage in or sponsor terrorist acts.

As of Wednesday, any money that the 30 organizations have in the United States will be blocked. Also, it will be a crime to provide money, weapons or other types of tangible support to any of the groups.

In addition, members and representatives of these organizations will be ineligible for U.S. visas and will be subject to exclusion from the United States.

``Our goal is to make the United States fully a `no-support-for-terrorism' zone,'' Albright said in a statement.

``By steadily reducing the habitat in which terrorism thrives, we can hope to make terrorists first an endangered species and ultimately an extinct one,'' she said.

In a statement issued during a political trip in New Jersey, President Bill Clinton said, ``The United States is committed to fight against those who speak the language of terror.''

The law was inspired in part by the April 1995 bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee complained about the high proportion of Islamic groups included on the list.

Citing State Department figures, the committee said there were only three anti-U.S. terrorist attacks in the Middle East last year.

Among the better known Islamic groups named were the Palestinian organization Hamas and the Lebanese group Hezbollah.

Also designated were Kach and Kahane Chai, Israeli groups whose stated goal is to restore the biblical state of Israel.

The list also was assailed by the National Coalition to Protect Political Freedom, which called it an attack on First Amendment rights.

Excluding religious materials and medicine, ``Any funds that a U.S. person gives to schools, medical clinics or orphanages linked in any way to the designated foreign groups will become a federal crime punishable by up to 10 years in prison,'' the coalition said.

Sens. John Kyl and Dianne Feinstein complained about the omission of the Irish Republican Army and the Palestine Liberation Organization from the list.

They called the IRA ``one of the oldest, most violent and indiscriminate terrorist organizations in modern history.''

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin noted that the IRA declared an unequivocal cease-fire on July 19 and that the British government declared subsequently that the truce was genuine in word and deed.

In Belfast, Ken Maginnis, security spokesman for the pro-British Ulster Unionist Party in Northern Ireland, accused the Clinton administration of being ``slow to learn'' lesson of previous IRA cease-fire, which lasted 17 months before the group returned to bombing.

``They will, I predict, be equally embarrassed when this phase of seeking political concessions comes to an end,'' Maginnis said.

Rubin was not asked about the PLO. The United States once regarded the PLO as a terrorist organization but has had normal dealings with PLO officials since the Oslo peace accords were signed in 1993.

Two weeks ago, the House, impatient with the slow pace of designating terrorist groups, voted 396-6 to cut State Department salaries and expenses by 2 per cent until the list was completed. The law mandating the identification of terrorist groups took effect 17 months ago.

House and Senate conferees were due to take up the amendment in the coming days. Rep. Benjamin Gilman, the House International Relations Committee chairman, and others complained that the State Department was dragging its feet.

On Wednesday, Gilman welcomed Albright's announcement.

``It's too bad that a certain amount of heat apparently was required to generate the necessary light in the State Department on this important matter of national security,'' he said.

Oct. 08, 1997

CAC1812-----
r i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 10-08 0495
intj 888 02 nat cai brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Lebanese Premier: No resistance after Israeli withdrawal from south(
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Guerrillas fighting to end Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon will cease their war following an Israeli withdrawal, Prime Minister Salim Hoss was quoted as saying in a radio interview Friday.

Hoss reiterated his government's ``political and moral support'' for guerrillas of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah and other groups fighting to oust Israeli troops and their allied Lebanese militiamen from a border zone in southern Lebanon.

``Our position is clear: We support the resistance as long as there is occupation. When occupation no longer exists, there will be no resistance,'' Hoss told the British Broadcasting Corporation's Arabic service.

``Until Israel withdraws from Lebanese territory, it is not in (Lebanon's) interest to stop the resistance,'' he added.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has pledged to withdraw his country's troops by July.

A text of Hoss' interview, conducted in Arabic, was released by the prime minister's office Friday. His remarks were the strongest thus far by a senior Lebanese official about the future of Hezbollah, or the Party of God.

Hezbollah leaders have not indicated what they will do, repeatedly saying that disclosing their strategy now would only benefit Israel.

However, Col. Bashar Assad, the Syrian president's influential son, has made remarks to the London-based Arabic weekly magazine Al Wasat that were similar to those of Hoss. He was quoted in August as saying he expected the guerrillas would return to ``normal life'' following an Israeli withdrawal.

Assad reportedly is being groomed to eventually succeed his father, Hafez Assad, as leader of Syria, which is the main power broker in Lebanon. Syria maintains about 30,000 soldiers in Lebanon, ostensibly to prevent the 1975-90 civil war from being reignited.

Hezbollah, a Shiite Muslim fundamentalist group leading the guerrilla war in the south, is trying to evict the Israeli army from southern Lebanon. Israel contends the border zone it set up in 1985 is necessary to shield its northern towns from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

Barak's pledge calls for a pullout as part of a security arrangement. Lebanon has refused to give security guarantees, insisting on an unconditional withdrawal. Lebanon also has vowed to stick by Syria in any peace negotiations with Israel. Syrian-Israeli talks have been suspended since 1996, and recent efforts to revive them have so far been unsuccessful.

In recent weeks, Israeli warplanes have pounded suspected guerrilla hideouts in southern Lebanon almost daily. The stepped-up campaign apparently is aimed at protecting Israeli ground forces and keeping the guerrillas off-balance. Still, two Israeli soldiers were wounded Thursday in a Hezbollah attack on a patrol.

^hd-sjs(
AP-LD-10-08-99 1229GMT(

RT196 3 III 00443 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Iranian-Backed Hezbollah Stages Demonstration of Power<
^By MORSHED DANDASH=

HERMEL, Lebanon (AP) - The Iranian-backed Hezbollah on Sunday staged the biggest militia display of arms since the government disbanded Lebanon's warring factions to end the civil war in 1990.

Some 300 members of the Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God, paraded through an isolated valley 10 kilometers (six miles) north of Hermel, a mountainous region long a haven for drug traffickers and outlaws.

As hundreds of curious villagers watched, the fighters then carried out a three-hour live-fire exercise using machine-guns, rocket launchers, mortars, and artillery to take mock Israeli positions.

It was the biggest militia display of force since 1990, when the Lebanese government finally regained control over territory that had been controlled by various factions since civil war broke out in 1975.

Hezbollah is the only independent group that President Elias Hrawi's Syrian-backed government has allowed to keep its arms, but only to stage operations against Israel and its allies in the Jewish state's self-styled security zone in south Lebanon.

The parade followed deadly artillery and mortar duels along the security zone last week between Hezbollah and Israeli forces and their allied South Lebanon Army that left at least five people dead and 31 wounded.

Hermel is about 135 kilometers (84 miles) northeast of the scene of last week's hostilities, which marked the first anniversary of the slaying of Hezbollah leader Sheik Abbas Musawi by Israeli helicopter gunships that strafed his convoy in south Lebanon.

They also coincide with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the Middle East to revive peace talks stalled when Israel expelled some 400 Palestinians to south Lebanon in retaliation for the killings of six Israeli soldiers.

Christopher arrived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Sunday following talks with the leaders of Egypt, Jordan and Syria. Kuwait and Israel remain on his itinerary. Lebanese media speculate that he may visit their country, but no visit is scheduled.

Hezbollah rejects the peace process and regularly steps up attacks on the security prior to U.S. diplomatic visits to the region or in advance of new rounds of negotiations.

Hezbollah fields about about 3,000 hardcore guerrillas against the Israeli-held enclave. The movement is not allowed to bear arms in other parts of Lebanon.

The United States has been pressing Lebanon to disarm Hezbollah in order to pressure Israel into abandoning the zone.

But Hrawi's government contends Israel should withdraw first, pledging the Lebanese army would then prevent guerrilla attacks against Israel from Lebanese territory.

^rs-fn<

212034 Feb GMT

RTT8873 3 III 00676 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Jerusalem Day, 1st Ld-Writethru
^BC-Lebanon-Jerusalem Day, 1st Ld-Writethru
^Hezbollah Marks Jerusalem Days With `Ninja' Parade(
^Eds: AMs. UPDATES with Hezbollah parades in east Lebanon, speeches, incorporates portion of BC-Iran-Jerusalem Day, CORRECTS spelling of Khamenei in 14th graf.(
^AP Photos BEI-1, 2 Available(
^By RODEINA KENAAN=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Sword-wielding Shiite Muslim militants in Japanese-style ninja warrior costumes paraded in Beirut's southern slums and east Lebanon Friday to mark Jerusalem Day.

Their heads covered in hoods, they shouted ``Death to Israel and its patron, the great satan'' and trampled the U.S. and Israeli flags as the force paraded in Beirut's southern slums.

Some 2,000 militants of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, took part in the ``ninja'' parade. Some wore green, the color of Islam, and others black attire that covered them from head to toe. They were cheered by a crowd of about 10,000 people.

The ninjas were a class of feudal Japanese warriors highly trained in stealth and employed as undercover operatives and assassins. They were dressed in black for concealment.

Lebanese policemen watched from a distance as the men performed one of their ``drills'' _ a rescue operation for victims of a hypothetical car bombing.

The crowd dispersed peacefully an hour later.

Similar parades took place in east Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek and the town of Hermel near the Syrian border.

Despite public disclaimers by Iran, a spokesman for the estimated 3,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards stationed in east Lebanon's Bekaa valley took pride in the World Trade Center bombing in New York that left six people killed Feb. 26.

``The accusation of Muslim fundamentalists of engineering the bombing is tantamount to an admission of the Muslims' abilities to stage major operations against international arrogance,'' the spokesman, Sheik Hasan Mehdawi, said in a speech in Baalbek.

``It (the bombing) also heralds the emergence of the global Islamic state,'' he said, drawing prolonged applause from a crowd of 8,000 in Hezbollah's main power base.

In Marj al-Zohour in southeast Lebanon, the nearly 400 Palestinian deportees stranded in a makeshift camp between Israeli and Lebanese army lines suffered their first open rift since they were expelled by Israel Dec. 17.

The split was caused by disagreement over how to mark Jersalem Day. The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad, which forms a small minority in the camp, advocated a demonstration while the fundamentalist Hamas movement, the overwhelming majority, said a telegram of solidarity to Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei would suffice.

Around 30 exiles of Islamic Jihad brandished placards and burned the American and Israeli flags during a 10-minute demonstration they staged at the camp after the noon prayers.

Hooded men believed to be members of Hezbollah, the standard-bearer of Iran's brand of Shiite Muslim fundamentalism in Lebanon, led the march. They apparently had filtered through mountain trails into the camp during the night.

Deportees of Hamas, all Sunni fundamentalists, boycotted the demonstration. They stayed inside their tents after the open-air prayers.

Jerusalem Day falls on last Friday of Ramadan, Islam's holy month of fasting. It was decreed by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini after his Islamic Revolution seized power in Iran in 1979.

The purpose of the holiday is to stress the Muslims' solidarity with the Palestinians and determination to recover Jerusalem, the city which is holy to all three religions but is regarded by Israel as the capital of the Jewish state.

In Tehran meanwhile, thousands of Iranians poured into the streets of Tehran for an annual rally Friday to mark ``Jerusalem Day,'' vowing to annihilate Israel and return Islam's third holiest city to Muslims, Tehran radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Cyprus, did not indicate the size of the rally. But the state-run radio's reporters on the scene said thousands, chanting ``death to Israel'' and ``death to America,'' converged on Tehran University, where the rally ended with prayers led by President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

^(rk-rs-fn-mdm)<

191617 Mar GMT

RTT5518 3 III 00526 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st Ld-Writethru<
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st Ld-Writethru<
^Hezbollah Candidates Reject Peace with Israel<
^Eds: Clarifies that eight candidates have not yet been named publicly for security reasons; edits to tighten<
^By MOHAMMED SALAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The pro-Iranian Party of God said Wednesday it had eight candidates lined up for Lebanon's forthcoming parliamentary elections and pledged they would oppose U.S.-sponsored efforts for peace with israel.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said the Shiite Muslim candidates would run for parliamentary seats in the eastern Bekaa Valley, the central mountains and Beirut scheduled to begin Aug. 23.

The last general parliamentary elections in Lebanon were 20 years ago, three years before the 15-year civil war and a decade before Hezbollah was formed.

The black-turbaned Nasrallah, addressing a news conference, did not release the names of the candidates yet because of concerns for their safety.

But he said if they won they would ``reject and denounce any attempt for reconciliation with the Zionist entity, which has usurped the lands of others.''

The bearded Nasrallah, reading a statement in the basement of a mosque in south Beirut's slum of Bourj el-Barajneh, a Hezbollah stronghold, said the party's representatives would ``constantly seek to foil any attempt to normalize relations with the Zionist entity.''

``All government institutions, especially the army, should take part in efforts to liberate the south and defend the people,'' Nasrallah said, shaking his fist.

Israel controls a 440-square-mile (1,100-square-kilometer) self-styled ``Security Zone'' in south Lebanon since 1985 to buffer against cross-border guerrilla infiltrations into its northern settlements.

Hezbollah, made up of Shiite zealots following the teachings of the late Iranian revolutionary patriarch Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, leads a guerrilla warfare against the security zone.

Israel retaliates by air, artillery and naval attacks on suspected hideouts of Hezbollah guerrillas.

Nasrallah said Hezbollah also had candidates in mind for elections in south Lebanon, scheduled for Sept. 6, but would also withhold their names for now ``mainly for security considerations.''

``They live in the south, which is the heart of the confrontation with Israel,'' he said.

Since Israeli helicopter gunships assassinated former Hezbollah leader Abbas Musawi, his wife and son in south Lebanon Feb. 16, Hezbollah leaders there have gone underground.

President Elias Hrawi's government on July 24 called a three-stage general elections for a 128-seat one-chamber house to be distributed equally between Muslims and Christians in line with political reforms following the 1975-1990 civil war.

Christian leaders have been outspoken against the proposed elections, insisting that Syria's 40,000 peacekeeping soldiers should first withdraw from major cities to avoid their influence on the elections.

However, Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam said recently that general elections were part of the political reforms called by an Arab League-brokered peace plan, which meant Syrian troops would only be moved after the elections.

Syria is the main power broker in the country with its 40,000 troops deployed in most of the nation, except for the volatile south, in line with a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab league.

051745 Aug GMT

[illegible]

nic inte
^BC-Lebanon: Re-inventing a Nation, 1st add (adv, attn TJK)(
^BEIRUT: of God. (

Hezbollah was the umbrella for Islamic Jihad and other groups that held scores of Westerners hostage between 1984 and 1991. Its guns and rhetoric now focus mostly on the Israelis and their Lebanese allies in south Lebanon.

Hezbollah and other fundamentalist groups have entered mainstream politics, winning 12 of Parliament's 128 seats last year. But their intentions for the future remain one of the biggest questions for Lebanon, where 55 percent of the 4 million people are Muslim and 45 percent Christian.

``If the people agree, we would like to establish an Islamic state in Lebanon. Otherwise, we would not mind having an ordinary state,'' said Hajj Hassan Houballah, a member of Hezbollah's political bureau.

Less than a year ago, Houballah was hard to find. His men regarded strangers as potential Israeli spies. Today the 34-year-old lawyer operates out of a publicly known office in the southern port city of Tyre.

``The hostage file has been closed forever,'' he said, a flowery-print curtain shielding him from bright sunlight striking the window behind him.

``Although I really wasn't involved in the hostage crises, I truly believe that the kidnappers have come to the understanding that the kidnappings served nothing,'' Houballah said.

Religious divisions remain, but the concept of a national identity seems to be growing.

One of the most visible beneficiaries is the Lebanese army, displaying new pride and capability and generating trust and respect.

It serves mostly as an internal security force. No one expects the Lebanese army to repell foreign troops, especially when Lebanon's only borders face militarily mighty Israel and Syria.

The Israelis invaded in 1978 and 1982 to rout Palestinian guerrillas and never left their self-proclaimed ``security zone'' in the south, where they're locked in retaliatory attacks with Shiite fundamentalists. The Syrians arrived in 1976, nominally as peacekeepers. They became combatants and remain the dominant political and military power.

With Syria's approval, the Lebanese army is gradually spreading across the country, just as Prime Minister Rafik Hariri is trying to extend the authority of his 8-month-old government.

Law and order may allow Muslims to drive into the Christian mountains for picnics, or Christians to go to Baalbek, but it has a price tag.

Throughout the country, merchants say people spent more during the war _ on everything from tomatoes to gold jewelry, an easily portable and convertible commodity if they had to flee suddenly.

Most militias were bankrolled, at least in part, by other Arab countries, Iran or Israel. That meant a steady flow of hard currency.

Every major militia had its own seaport, some of them no more than a crude jetty, where everything from guns to sugar to French fashions could be imported. Today the ports have reverted to the government, and taxation has returned. In the southern city of Sidon, even the fishermen's rowboats carry freshly painted registration numbers.

``Government customs fees are almost triple what the militias charged,'' said Mustafa Sanjar, 32, a Sidon boutique owner. ``Militias took a lump sum for each container. The government checks invoices for the value of the shipment.''

The dollar is still king, but today it's the preferred currency of the street instead of reposing in bank vaults. The Lebanese pound trades at 1,735 to the dollar, compared to 2.8 when the war started in 1975.

Wages have not kept pace. Low-level government employees, and others paid in Lebanese pounds, find that their monthly salaries are worth less than dlrs 125 _ not enough to feed traditionally large families.

``Everybody is working day and night to get money for food,'' said Abdullah Marawi, 24, an employee at a second-hand appliance and repair shop in the northern port of Tripoli, a mostly Sunni city still patrolled by Syrian soldiers.

A co-worker, 35-year-old Ghassan Dabliz, looked up from the air conditioner he was fixing. ``During the war, we worked one month and got enough money for three months. Now we're working three months to get enough money for one month,'' he said.

But Dabliz, like many other Lebanese, saw a good trade-off for the economic gloom.

``This government, in just a few months, is doing things that other governments were unable to do. Best of all, there is no thief stealing my car. There is no criminal in the street. There is no militia leader controlling the road.''

(smf/eh/fx)

NCK2271
r m msg&&beirut 08-05 0328
^BC-France-Lebanon<

+ S-L .

^Lebanese President Says Army Won't Act Against Hezbollah<

PARIS (AP) -- The Lebanese army will not try to disarm Hezbollah guerrillas, whose rocket attacks against Israel provoked week-long reprisals that drove 500,000 people from their homes.

President Rafik Hariri of Lebanon told the French newspaper Liberation in an interviewpublished Thursday that trying to disarm the Iranian-backed militia ``would provoke a new civil war.''

``If your question is, are we going to disarm Hezbollah, the answer is no,'' Hariri was quoted as saying.

Israel hoped that its air, sea and artillery blitz against southern Lebanon last week would pressure the government and Syria, Lebanon's main power-broker, to disarm the guerrillas.

The offensive, unleashed after seven Israeli soldiers were killed in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon, left 147 people dead and 496 wounded, and forced 500,000 from their homes.

However, Hariri said that Hezbollah's campaign to liberate the so-called security zone Israel controls in southern Lebanon was legitimate resistance against an occupying power.

``As long as our soil is occupied, it's legitimate to oppose it,'' Hariri was quoted as saying. ``That's true for Hezbollah and the Lebanese resistance in general.''

Hariri said that last week's attacks, called off on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region, destroyed 10,000 houses and 20,000 apartments.

``If the aim was to to destroy or annihalate the Lebanese resistance or Hezbollah in the south, I can say that neither one or the other were really touched,'' Hariri was quoted as saying.

``On the other hand, the Lebanese people have been hit badly.''

The Lebanse army, which has been rebuilt since the civil war, will fight back if atttacked ``within its means'' against Israeli incursions, Hariri said.

(pm)

AP--08-05-93 0931GMT<

w0044-----
r i BC-Lebanon-Israel 07-02 0668
233 07 brt cai
`BC-Lebanon-Israel,0667<
`Hezbollah vows to bomb northern Israel again if civilians attacked<
`AP Photo TLV101<
`By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
`Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Israel's destruction of Lebanese infrastructure will not deter Hezbollah guerrillas from firing rockets anew into Israel's northern territory to avenge attacks on civilians, the chief of guerrillas says.

``The Israeli enemy must understand that the bombing of civilians and civilian installations in Lebanon will not protect settlements (in northern Israel),'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, said Friday.

``When the Israelis strike civilian installations in Lebanon, it is our natural right to fire Katyusha rockets,'' he added in an interview with privately-owned Lebanese Broadcasting Corp. television.

Nasrallah's comments dispelled speculation that last week's devastating Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon's infrastructure would keep Hezbollah from firing rockets across the border.

The Israeli airstrikes killed nine Lebanese and wounded 57, and destroyed three bridges that link Beirut with the southern region. Two power stations outside Beirut were hit, plunging the Lebanese capital into darkness.

Israel said the airstrikes, the heaviest since Israel's bombing blitz against Lebanon in 1996, were in response to Hezbollah guerrilla rocket attacks on its northern towns. Two Israelis were killed and 13 injured.

Nasrallah said his guerrillas fired rockets into northern Israel after a series of Israeli attacks on southern villages wounded a number of Lebanese civilians.

``The Katyusha volleys were designed to send a message that the bombing of Lebanese installations will not protect civilians and installations (in northern Israel),'' he said.

There has been no serious fighting in south Lebanon since last week's hostilities, except for an attack by Israeli helicopters Thursday that targeted suspected guerrilla hideouts in the region. The air raid followed a Hezbollah attack on an outpost of Israeli-allied Lebanese militiamen. No one was killed.

Nasrallah, interviewed at a secret location in Beirut's southern suburbs, accused the Israeli military establishment trying to scuttle a 3-year-old agreement designed to protect civilians on both sides of the border. Israel was trying to establish ``a new game'' with the bombing blitz, he said.

Outgoing Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens said earlier this week that the agreement was void and instructed the army to ignore it.

Israel refused to attend this week's meeting of a multinational committee that monitors the agreement, established in 1996 after a 16-day Israeli bombardment of Lebanon killed 175, most of them civilians.

The understanding, which prohibits targeting civilians or firing from civilian areas, has been violated frequently. But the monitoring group, with representatives from the United States, France, Syria, Lebanon and Israel, generally has succeeded in containing hostilities.

Nasrallah said Hezbollah supported the April understanding but warned against attempts to scuttle it.

``The understanding is a Lebanese gain, and essential for protecting civilians,'' he said. ``If the understanding is scuttled, the situation will be very serious.''

Nasrallah rejected calls, reportedly made by the Americans, on the Lebanese government to freeze Hezbollah attacks against Israeli occupation forces in south Lebanon. He dismissed a suggestion that a six-month freeze would help create a climate for the resumption of Israel's peace negotiations with both Lebanon and Syria, which have been suspended since 1996.

``We are not ready to stop our attacks for a single day,'' he said.

Hezbollah is leading a guerrilla war to oust Israeli soldiers and their allied militiamen from a border strip in south Lebanon, set up by Israel in 1985 to shield its northern towns against cross-border guerrilla attacks.

AP-LD-07-02-99 0145GMT<

RT005 3 III 00746 ------
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Israel(
^BC-Lebanon-Israel(
^Hezbollah Chief Pledges ``New Rules'' in South Lebanon(

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim guerrillas was quoted Friday as saying his fighters will not fire rockets into northern Israel if the Israelis do not bombard Muslim villages in south Lebanon.

``We're adhering to the new rules of the game ... that we ourselves have established,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said in an interview published by the leftist As-Safir daily four days before Arab-Israeli peace talks resume in Washington.

``We stopped firing Katyusha rockets into northern Israel when Israel stopped shelling population centers,'' he said.

He called this a ``balance of terror'' based on a mutual cessation of targeting civilian areas on both sides of the flashpoint border, the only active Arab-Israeli warfront.

``Our goal is not to blast civilian targets with Katyushas. But if our civilian population centers are shelled, then Israel's settlements in northern Palestine are not going to be exempt from retaliation,'' he warned.

Nasrallah, who recently returned from talks with Iranian leaders in Tehran, appeared to be taking an unexpectedly milder line than usual on the confrontation with Israel in south Lebanon.

He did not elaborate. But he said ``resistance operations'' against the Israeli-occupied zone were not linked to the 21-month-old, U.S.-sponsored peace process in which the Palestinians reportedly are near reaching an interim agreement with the Jewish state.

Earlier rounds of talks in Washington have been marked by sharp escalations of violence in south Lebanon and in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Although Nasrallah spoke of ``new rules'' in the confrontation with Israel, they appeared similar to a tacit understanding between Hezbollah and the Jewish state that has been observed for some time.

Under that understanding, the Israelis would limit retaliation to major attacks on the security zone, but would unleash severe reprisals, including attacks on towns and villages in south Lebanon, if settlements in northern Galilee were rocketed.

Israeli warplanes Thursday raided Hezbollah targets after guerrillas attacked positions inside the security zone manned by the South Lebanon Army, a Lebanese militia armed and funded by Israel.

That kept tension high in the turbulent region in advance of the 11th round of peace talks scheduled to begin next Tuesday in Washington.

The foreign ministers of Syria, Jordan and Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization's political department chief gathered in Beirut Friday to map out their strategy for the 11th round of peace negotiations.

Iran, and other radical Arab groups like Hezbollah, oppose the peace talks. They seek the destruction of Israel as a state and the restoration of Palestine.

Hezbollah considers its attacks on the zone as legitimate resistance by the Lebanese against an occupying army.

Nasrallah insisted that Hezbollah's operations ``are not seasonal or political. It's a daily action that our brothers have been waging since 1985.''

That was when Israel withdrew the bulk of its army which invaded Lebanon in June 1982 to crush Palestinian guerrillas.

The Israelis continue to occupy the 440-square-mile (1,100-square-kilometer) security zone as a buffer against guerrilla attacks on the Jewish state.

Nasrallah said the ``new rules'' seem to have held over the last three weeks of hostilities following a one-week Israeli air, sea and artillery offensive against Hezbollah July 25-31 after seven soldiers were slain in guerrilla attacks.

``This has been demonstrated in the way the Israelis reacted to the Shiheen operation,'' Nasrallah said.

Nine Israeli soldiers were killed in a Hezbollah attack near the village of Shiheen inside the Israeli-occupied zone Aug. 19. It was the highest single-day death toll the Israelis have suffered in south Lebanon since 1985.

Israeli fighter-bombers blasted Hezbollah training and supply bases in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, killing two guerrillas. But civilian targets were not hit.

Those air strikes were the first since a U.S.-brokered cease-fire halted the Israeli blitz in July in which 147 people, mostly Lebanese civilians, were killed, nearly 500 wounded and a half-million people driven from their homes.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was credited with arranging that truce, which set the stage for the forthcoming round of peace talks.

The security zone, running from the Mediterranean coast to the foothills of Mount Hermon, is garrisoned by 1,200 Israeli soldiers and the 2,500-strong SLA. It has a predominantly Shiite population of 200,000.

^DA-FN-EB(

270935 Aug GMT

RT324 3 III 00583 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Protest, 2nd Ld-Writethru
^BC-Lebanon-Protest, 2nd Ld-Writethru
^Massive Funeral For Eight Hezbollah Victims(
^Eds. UPDATES with burial, anti-government chants and color.(
^With BC-Mideast-Peace(
^By DONNA ABU-NASR=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Thousands of mourners Tuesday buried eight Shiite Muslim militants gunned down by the Lebanese army during a demonstration against the PLO-Israel peace accord.

Frenzied chants demanding the death of President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri roared from the sea-like funeral procession that wound through the dusty alleyways of south Beirut's slums.

The death chants for the nation's two highest-ranking leaders threatened to generate a government showdown with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, which fields Lebanon's strongest militia.

The crisis was touched off when army troops fired Monday on a group of 500 Hezbollah demonstrators who defied a government ban on public gatherings to protest the PLO-Israel pact.

Eight were killed and 40 wounded in the first time that government troops opened fire on Hezbollah partisans.

The corpses, placed in plastic bags and draped in Hezbollah's yellow flags, were shoulder-carried in Tuesday's funeral by weeping comrades as mourners clenched their fists and chanted ``Your blood shall be avenged.''

The two-mile- (three-kilometer-) long procession was led by Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, leader of the Iranian-Backed Hezbollah, the group's spiritual guide Sheik Mohammed Fadlallah and dozens of other turbaned clerics.

Women, wearing black head-to-toe chadors and carrying babies, brought up the rear of the march.

Islam's battle cry of Allah Akbar, or God is Great, and chants of ``Death to America,'' ``Death to Israel'' and ``Down with Arafat'' rang out from the flag-waving procession.

Red posters reading ``Israel shall have no security in our Islamic world'' and ``Resistance will not be terrorized by traitors'' were brandished in the funeral from Imam al-Rida Mosque to the Shaheedein (two martyrs) cemetery.

Troops and riot police watched from close range, directing traffic away from the outset of funeral. But their presence thinned out towards the end of the procession.

An army officer on the scene, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the government ban on protest demonstrations did not cover funerals.

``We cannot tell people not to bury their dead,'' he said.

Nasrallah delivered a fiery eulogy before the victims were lowered into their graves, saying ``I accuse Rafik Hariri's government of trying to rekindle Lebanon's civil war.''

Nasrallah charged that Hariri's half-Christian, half-Muslim cabinet was ``booby-trapped by American and Israeli leanings'' and demanded the ``executioners of yesterday's massacre be brought to trial.''

Hezbollah has called the PLO-Israel peace accord ``the crime of the century.'' The group has been leading a guerrilla war to evict Israel from a self-styled ``security zone'' it has occupied since 1985 in south Lebanon as a buffer against attacks on northern Israeli towns.

Hezbollah, the standard-bearer of Iran's brand of Shiite fundamentalism in Lebanon, opposed the deal PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat struck with Israel for limited Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Hezbollah has been vowing to wreck the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process since its was launched in Madrid 23 months ago. The party advocates the destruction of Jewish state.

The United States has been publicly urging Lebanon to disarm Hezbollah's estimated 3,000 hardcore guerrillas as a precondition for an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon to facilitate a Lebanese-Israeli peace accord.

^(fn-da-mdm)(

141146 Sep GMT

RT451 3 III 00535 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Protest, 4th Ld-Writethru<
^BC-Lebanon-Protest, 4th Ld-Writethru<
^Angry Funeral For Eight Hezbollah Victims<
^Eds: INSERTS new 8th and 9th grafs on defense minister, parliament<
^With BC-Mideast-Peace<
^AP Photos Available<
^By DONNA ABU-NASR=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Thousands of Shiite Muslim mourners, many calling for the deaths of Lebanon's leaders, on Tuesday buried eight people killed by Lebanese troops in a protest against the PLO-Israel accord.

The funeral staged by the Shiite fundamentalist Hezbollah, or Party of God, drew more than 20,000 to the dusty streets and alleys of Beirut's southern slums.

Government soldiers and riot police made no attempt to interfere.

In the eastern town of Baalbek, long a Hezbollah stronghold, angry Shiite activists stormed the municipal building and tore down pictures of Lebanese President Elias Hrawi.

The Hezbollah supporters, many of them armed, also smashed a police jeep and a pickup truck parked at the building's entrance with stones and rifle butts.

The protests were sparked by an incident Monday in which army troops fired on a group of 500 Hezbollah demonstrators who defied a government ban on public gatherings to protest the PLO-Israel peace pact.

Eight were killed and 40 wounded in the first time that government troops opened fire on Hezbollah partisans.

Defense Minister Mohsen Dalloul, who issued the firing orders, told reporters he and his family had been receiving death threats from anonymous callers.

Dalloul and other government ministers came under scathing attacks during an eight-hour Parliament session. But Hezbollah supporters failed to muster enough support for a vote of no confidence against the government.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah fields Lebanon's strongest militia, with about 3,000 fighters. It is most active in southern Lebanon, where its fighters have sworn to continue guerrilla attacks on Israel's self-styled ``security zone'' until the Jewish state withdraws its troops from Lebanese soil.

Mourners Tuesday carried the corpses on their shoulders through the streets to the Shaheedein (Two Martyrs) Cemetery. The bodies were draped in the yellow flags of Hezbollah.

Angry mourners raised clenched fists and vowed, ``Your blood shall be avenged.''

They shouted for the deaths of Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Islam's battle cry of ``Allah Akbar,'' or ``God is Great,'' and chants of ``Death to America,'' ``Death to Israel'' and ``Down with Arafat'' also rang out from the flag-waving procession.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah and Sheik Mohammed Fadlallah, the group's spiritual guide, led the funeral parade along with dozens of other senior, turbaned clerics.

Nasrallah delivered a fiery eulogy before the victims were lowered into their graves, saying ``I accuse Rafik Hariri's government of trying to rekindle Lebanon's civil war.''

He demanded that the ``executioners of yesterday's massacre be brought to trial.''

Hezbollah opposes the PLO-Israel peace accord, characterizing it as ``the crime of the century.'' It has vowed to wreck the U.S.-backed Middle East peace process and advocates the destruction of the Jewish state.

The United States has been urging Lebanon to disarm Hezbollah guerrillas as a precondition for an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon and to facilitate a Lebanese-Israeli peace accord.

^rs-fn-da-eap<

141717 Sep GMT

RT208 3 III 00408 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
^With Mideast-Opponents(
^Hezbollah Leader Says Anti-Israel Resistance Will Continue(
^AP Photo BEI102(
^By MOHAMMED SALAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, said Sunday his group would not allow the Lebanese government to smother guerrilla warfare against Israel in south Lebanon.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah made the statement at a rally held in Beirut's southern suburbs to mourn eight Hezbollah activists killed in a clash with the Lebanese army a week ago.

``If the massacre was intended as a message to the United States that the (Lebanese) government is capable of snuffing out resistance against the Israeli enemy, then it will discover how foolish this is,'' Nasrallah told the crowd.

``Hezbollah is not going to allow the liquidation of the resistance,'' he said.

Some 7,000 attending the rally burst in chants of ``down with the government of traitors'' and ``death to America, death to Israel.''

Army troops opened fire on Shiite Muslim demonstrators in Beirut last Monday after they defied a government ban on public gatherings to demonstrate against the PLO-Israel peace pact.

The government, headed by President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, says the army fired after it was provoked.

Hezbollah fields the largest militia in Lebanon, with some 3,000 fighters. They have been most active in south Lebanon, hitting Israelis and their surrogate militiamen in the self-styled ``security zone'' Israel set up in 1985 to protect its border from infiltration.

Hezbollah has vowed to continue its attacks until Israel withdraws from Lebanese soil.

The United States has urged Lebanon to curb Hezbollah, as it has other militias who fought in the 1975-1990 civil war. The United States argues that this would induce Israel to withdraw and would give needed impetus to Israeli-Lebanon peace negotiations.

Hezbollah's spiritual guide, Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, told the rally that the Lebanese government lost the confidence of the people after last week's incident.

``This government is a failure,'' he said. ``Even if its signs any agreement with Israel, that agreement would not be valid because the government is not recognized by the people anymore.''

Hezbollah has opposed the U.S.-backed peace process from the start. It also has sharply denounced the PLO-Israel accord, signed at the White House on Sept. 13 for limited Palestinian self-rule.

^ms-fn-eap(

191730 Sep GMT

RT573 3 III 00439 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Denmark
^BC-Lebanon-Denmark
^Hezbollah Militants Briefly Detain Members of Danish Delegation(
^By MORSHED DANDASH=
^Associated Press Writer=

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) _ Militants of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah briefly detained three members of a visiting Danish delegation Wednesday as they were taking pictures in this ancient Roman township.

Police said an unidentified number of activists of Hezbollah, or Party of God, the group believed to be behind the abduction of Westerners in Lebanon, grabbed the men at the entrance to Baalbek's souk near the town's Roman ruins at midday (1000 GMT).

Another Hezbollah group, some of them in military fatigues, fanned around the ruins, where the rest of the 64-member delegation had gathered, police said.

They said the three men were held for 15 minutes and were released after the intervention of the Syrian garrison in the town.

Christian Oldenburg, the Danish ambassador to Syria who is also accredited to Lebanon, had offered himself up to Hezbollah in place of the three detained men if necessary, according to police.

They said Hezbollah accused the men of being spies because they were taking pictures. The delegation cut short their trip to Baalbek and went back to Beirut after the incident.

Police did not have the names of the detained men nor any further details on the incident.

Danish delegation members in Beirut were not immediately available for comment.

The trade, agriculture and industry delegation arrived from Damascus to Lebanon overland Wednesday as part of a Middle East tour. It is headed by Danish Minister for Business Affairs Mimi Stilling.

Hezbollah activists keep a close watch over visitors to Baalbek, which is one of their main strongholds. They are particulary sensitive about outsiders taking pictures without permission and usually confiscate films from photographers.

Hezbollahis were particulary nervous because the picture-taking came a day after Israeli planes demolished the party's radio and television stations in the vicinity of Baalbek.

The planes struck after Hezbollah guerrillas attackedIsrael's self-styled ``security zone'' in Lebanon, wounded two Israeli soldiers and two surrogate militiamen Tuesday.

Police said they believe Wednesday's incident did not suggest a revival of hostage-taking that marked the last seven years of Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war.

Shiite Muslim extremists, believed to have been operation under Hezbollah's wing, seized more than 90 Westerners, including Americans, Britons and Frenchmen, as of 1983.

Among them was former Associated Press chief Middle East correspondent Terry Anderson, who became the longest-held hostage. He was abducted March 16, 1985 and released in December 1991.

^(str-da-fn-mdm)(

171815 Nov GMT

RTT70433I-----
a pbx
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Hezbollah Protests Army Beating; Tension With Government<

JIBSHEET, Lebanon (AP) _ Tension between the Syrian-backed government and pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim fundamentalists intensified Thursday as the Shiites protested the army's alleged beating of a crippled war veteran and member of their group.

The Tehran-backed Hezbollah staged a sit-in at a mosque in this southern town to protest what they said was an assault Wednesday on Hezbollah member Ahmed Karaki, and warned of future retaliation against such actions.

The army said Karaki was arrested, not beaten.

The incident highlighted friction between the Hezbollah and the government, which erupted Sept. 13 when troops opened fire on Hezbollah protesting the PLO-Israeli accord along the airport road in Shiite-populated south Beirut, killing nine demonstrators and wounding 35.

Security sources in south Lebanon said Karaki was beaten up by soldiers at an army checkpoint at the entrance to Jibsheet, birthplace of Hezbollah's military wing, the Islamic Resistance. The Islamic Resistance spearheads guerrilla attacks against Israel's self-styled ''security zone'' in south Lebanon.

Defense Ministry sources said Karaki was arrested after he refused orders to hand over his unlicensed pistol and walkie-talkie during a routine identity and vehicle check, then pulled his gun and opened fire on the soldiers. No one was wounded.

An army source said the action was not aimed against Karaki, but was part of routine operations. The defense, army and security sources all spoke on condition of anonymity.

But Jibsheet's Shiite religious leader, Sheik Ahmed Taleb, called Karaki's beating a ''premedidated action'' and accused the Lebanese army of ''oppressing the people'' instead of fighting the Israeli occupation.

He called on Prime Minister Rafik Hariri to launch an investigation of the beating.

''The culprits should be publicly punished. Otherwise, let them (the government) bear the consequences,'' warned Taleb.

The Lebanese army has a unit stationed in the nearby village of Harfoush. The troops have largely stayed out of the Israeli-guerrilla clashes.

Karaki is a veteran of the war against Israel and its militia allies in southern Lebanon. He lost a leg in the Israel-guerrilla battles and is fitted with an artificial limb, according to the local security sources.

There has been media speculation since Sunday's summit in Geneva between President Clinton and Syrian President Hafez Assad, that Syria might want to rein in the militants in Lebanon. During the summit, Assad recommitted Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, to negotiating peace with Israel.

A Hezbollah delegation was expected in Damascus soon for talks with Syrian officials on the outcome of the Geneva summit, Beirut newspapers reported Thursday.

Hezbollah, or Party of God, which dominates south Lebanon and is the only remaining armed militia since the 15-year civil war ended in 1990, opposes the peace talks and has pledged to wreck the peace process.

Hezbollah's spiritual guide, Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, said Monday the fight against Israel would continue in spite of the summit.

Israel wants guarantees before it withdraws from the ''security zone'' that its border communities would be safe from guerrilla attacks.

Jan. 20, 1994
sfg-ds-js)

BTA1570-----
U I MEGALNYINT 08-21 0125
INT MIC BRT
MEGAL NYINT

Hezbollah,

Re Lebanon-Fundamentalist. News is that this alliance is the first political coalition in Lebanon that has publicly dared to challenge Hezbollah. It has been thrashed out by the three leaders as a result of the parliamentary election, definitely with Syria's tacit approval. Each of the coalition leaders has separately asserted that it will be a lasting alliance which will rule and stablize post-civil war Lebanon by steering it off extremes. Also newsy is the fact that Hezbollah is being cornered from offense into defense in local politics with the newly formed alliance aggressively downgrading the group's guerrilla war against Israeli occupation, a development that will certainly please the U.S. rgds.
fn

Beirut

a1814 3 iii 0W21W ----
AP-''BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
''BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
''Hezbollah's Chieftain Flays U.S. Trade Embargo On Iran(

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - Hezbollah, Iran's main Shiite Muslim fundamentalist ally in Lebanon, Tuesday deplored U.S. trade sanctions against Iran and called the United States the ``mother of terrorism.''

``All Muslim nations, all the downtrodden, all the oppressed on earth, will rally behind Iran to confront the latest American aggression,'' said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, leader of Hezbollah, or Party of God.

He was speaking at a mass rally in south Beirut to mark the death a week ago of a Hezbollah suicide bomber who rammed an explosives-packed car into an Israeli army patrol in south Lebanon, wounding 22 people, including nine Israeli soldiers.

``Who empowered America to judge others as terrorists or terrorist patrons?,'' Nasrallah said as crowds roared ``death to the Great Satan.''

``We consider America itself to be the mother of terrorism in this world: the peak, the pillar, the main mastermind and main base of world terrorism,'' Nasrallah declared.

He called President Clinton's weekend decision to tighten trade sanctions against Iran ``erroneous and foolhardy that will eventually backfire on him'' and said he was confident that Tehran will survive.

''RK-FN-EB(

021800 May GMT

a1904 4 mmm w0016 -----
AM-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah-US
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah-US
^Hezbollah Rejects Any Dialogue With United States<
^Eds: RETRANSMITTING to fix slugline.<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas, the main group trying to dislodge Israel from southern Lebanon, on Sunday rejected the possibility of dialogue with Washington and called for a pan-Islamic boycott of the United States.

``We've been reading reports in the press that some Arab countries are trying to start a dialogue between the U.S. government and Hezbollah,'' the party's leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, said.

``Let all know that we reject any dialogue or any form of contacts with the United States. We are convinced that the United States is the great Satan and the foremost enemy of Islam,'' Nasrallah added.

He is the secretary-general of Hezbollah, or Party of God, the standard-bearer of Iran's brand of Shiite Muslim fundamentalism in Lebanon.

Nasrallah spoke at a mass rally in Beirut marking the first week since the death of Ahmed Khomeini, son of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini who led Iran's Islamic revolution that toppled the monarchy in 1979.

Chants of ``death to America and its Israeli lackeys'' rang out from the crowd as Nasrallah said ``we vow never to relent in our struggle against America and Israel. We do not seek American recognition and we do not recognize America except as deadly enemy.''

Nasrallah did not name any of the Arab countries allegedly involved in the dialogue effort or the newspapers that reported it.

Hezbollah is currently spearheading a guerrilla war to dislodge Israel from a border enclave it occupies in south Lebanon to curb cross-border attacks on its northern towns.

Western intelligence departments believe the group was the umbrella for Shiite extremist factions responsible for the anti-U.S. hostage-taking and suicide bombing attacks in Beirut in the past decade.

^(rs-fn-ds)<

261740 Mar GMT

RT608 3 III 00530 ------
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah(
^Nasrallah: Israel, U.S. Want to Eliminate Hezbollah(
^By RIMA SALAMEH=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah said Wednesday Israel and the United States have deliberately accused his group of carrying out last month's Buenos Aires bombing to create a pretext to finish off the movement.

``The speed with which the accusation was orchestrated by America and Israel before any serious investigation was conducted is evidence that they want to uproot Hezbollah,'' the most militant Shiite Muslim movement in Lebanon, said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah.

Asked about a reported Argentine bid to extradite Sheik Sobhi Tofeili, leader of a militant Hezbollah wing, in connection with the July 18 attack on a Buenos Aires Jewish center in which 95 people were killed, Nasrallah said:

``One moment it's Sheik Tofeili, another it's Imad Mughniyeh and then it's Hussein Musawi or Iran.''

Mughniyeh and Musawi are the reputed masterminds behind a wave of hostage-taking in Lebanon between 1983 and 1991, in which more than 90 westerners were kidnapped.

Tofeili and Musawi live in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa valley, a Shiite Muslim stronghold in eastern Lebanon.

Mughniyeh lives in Tehran and acts as liaison between Iran's intelligence service and Hezbollah, or Party of God, in Lebanon.

The bearded, black-turbanned fundamentalist spoke in a one-hour recorded interview broadcast by Lebanon's state-run television station.

``America and Israel have even sought to give Hezbollah a much bigger size than it deserves by claiming that its actions threaten the peace process,'' he declared.

``But what they're really after is to get rid of Hezbollah by leveling terrorist charges against it because they're incapable of stopping our resistance movement,'' he added.

Israel said the Buenos Aires bombing was revenge for a June 2 Israeli air raid on a Hezbollah training base in the Bekaa in which up to 50 recruits were killed.

Hezbollah spearheads a guerrilla war in south Lebanon to drive out the Israelis from a predominantly Shiite border strip they have occupied since 1985.

Asked what measures Hezbollah would take if a peace accord was reached between Lebanon and Israel and Israel withdrew from south Lebanon, Nasrallah said:

``We will confront normalization of relations with the enemy. At this point, however, we're not willing to say how.''

He said Syria, the undisputed power in Lebanon, does not respond to U.S. and Israeli demands it curb Hezbollah's campaign against Israel's self-proclaimed ``security zone.''

``Syria does not tell us to stop the resistance or de-escalate or escalate the resistance. Hezbollah's activity is a field action that is not compromised by political considerations,'' Nasrallah said.

Hezbollah will not try to forcefully turn Lebanon into an Iranian-style Islamic republic, he noted.

``Every Islamic movement would like to establish an Islamic state. But we don't want to do this by force,'' Nasarallah said.

Christians make up an estimated 45 percent of Lebanon's four million population. They fought a 1975-1990 civil war to head off Islamic dominance which they fear would threaten their Western lifestyle.

^RS-FN-EB(

241932 Aug GMT

R1794 3 III 00585 -----
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah-Israel<
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah-Israel<
^Hezbollah Solidarity Rally With Palestinian
Fundamentalists<
^AP Photo BEI-1 available<
^By RODEINA KENAAN=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah on Friday staged a show of solidarity with Palestinian fundamentalists responsible for suicide bombing attacks in Israel.

More than 2,000 Lebanese and Palestinian zealots chanted ``Death to America, death to Israel'' during a four-hour mass rally held by Hezbollah, or Party of God, in south Beirut to mark its self-styled Martyrs' Day.

Hezbollah's leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah was flanked by senior leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, the two main Palestinian factions opposed to the PLO's self-rule accord with Israel.

It was the strongest display of the alliance binding Israel's deadliest foes under Iran's tutelage. Iranian Ambassador Hamayoun Ali Zadeh and his senior aides sat in the front row at the rally.

Islamic Jihad Secretary-General Fathi al-Shuqaqi took pride in Friday's attack by a suicide cyclist bomber, who killed three Israeli soldiers and wounded a dozen Palestinians and Israelis in the Gaza strip.

Al-Shuqaqi called Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin a fool and vowed more suicide attacks to avenge the car bomb killing of Hani Abed, an Islamic Jihad leader whose death in Gaza Nov. 2. was blamed on Israel.

``Since the martyrdom of brother Hani Abed we have been asserted that we shall not rest until we take revenge for his dear blood. This was fulfilled today,'' al-Shuqaqi told the Associated Press.

``Rabin is a fool. He thinks we fear death. In fact we love martyrdom more than life. He should realize that every time he kills one of our leaders he should prepare many more coffins for his soldiers,'' al-Shuqaqi added.

Shuqaqi gave the interview after the rally, where he was a key speaker along with Nasrallah and Mohammed Nazzal, the official spokesman of Hamas in Jordan.

Nasrallah described as glorious feats the Islamic Jihad bombing in Netzarim at Gaza strip and the suicide bus bombing in central Tel Aviv that killed 22 people Oct. 19, which was claimed by Hamas.

``These operations will not stop, God willing. No negotiated settlement with Israel is going to stop our Jihad (holy war) against the Zionist entity,'' said Nasrallah in his speech.

He paid tribute to the ``hundreds of martyrs'' Hezbollah has offered in its guerrilla war to dislodge Israel from an enclave its occupies in south Lebanon and in fighting ``America's and global arrogance.''

That was an obvious reference to the suicide bombing attacks mounted Shiite Muslim extremists under Hezbollah's wing against U.S. and western targets in Beirut in the past decade.

Among these attacks was the Oct. 23, 1983 simultaneous truck bombings of the U.S. Marine base and French paratroop headquarters of a multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut in which 241 American servicemen and 58 Frenchmen were killed.

Nasrallah also called on Israeli-allied militiamen of the South Lebanon Army that police the occupied border enclave to ``lay down arms and repent before it's too late.''

``Now is the time for repentance. From now on we shall not leave a single collaborator without revenge after Israel withdraws. We shall reach out for them in their cars and beds and anywhere,'' Nasrallah said.

The SLA has 2,500 militiamen trained, equipped and financed by Israel in control of the enclave, which covers 440 square miles (1,100 square kilometers) abutting Israel's northern flank.

^(rk-fn-mdm)<

111741 Nov GMT

ON LINE V8.3 PC-VT α 14:57:15 CTS
NLB21/2------
r ibx
intj 888u nat nic nicd jer
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Hezbollah Renews Offer To Swap Israeli Prisoners<
^By RODEINA KENAAN=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah has renewed an offer to exchange two Israeli prisoners it holds for hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinians in Israeli prisons, the As-Safir daily reported Monday.

Legislator Mohammed Berjawi said in an interview with the leftist newspaper that Israel has refused a swap in the past, insisting it should include four other Israeli servicemen missing in Lebanon, among them airman Capt. Ron Arad.

The fundamentalist Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God, holds soldiers Rahamim al-Sheikh and Yussi Fink.

They were captured during a guerrilla ambush in south Lebanon in February 1986. Israel said it had evidence that both had died in captivity, but their bodies have never been recovered.

Berjawi, one of eight Hezbollah Members of Parliament, said: ``No one knows where Ron Arad is. If Hezbollah had him, we wouldn't hesitate to say so. It's not shameful to say an Israeli soldier is in our hands.

``Ron Arad is missing, but the enemy continues to exploit his case to justify the practice of terrorism against our prisoners in Israeli jails,'' Berjawi said.

Arad, a F-4 Phantom navigator captured in 1986 when his plane was shot down over south Lebanon, is the only one of the six missing soldiers Israel believes may still be alive.

Asked whether Arad was dead or alive, Berjawi said: ``No one knows.''

As-Safir said Berjawi renewed the exchange offer in advance of Solidarity Day with the Lebanese Prisoner Nov. 27 when the country remembers Lebanese held by Israel, which occupies a border strip in south Lebanon.

``It's exclusively Israel's intransigence which has delayed the exchange for so long,'' Berjawi said. ``We in Hezbollah were prepared to carry it out years ago.''

He did not say how many Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners Hezbollah wants Israel to free in exchange for the two Israelis it holds.

But sources close to Hezbollah have frequently said the group would insist on the release on some 250 Lebanese and Palestinians held in Khiam prison in Israel's self-designated ``security zone'' in south Lebanon.

Most of the Arabs held there were captured in guerrilla attacks on the zone, which Israel established in 1985 as a buffer against cross-border raids.

Hezbollah sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the movement also insists on the release of two abducted Shiite activists, Sheik Abdul-Karim Obeid and Mustafa Dirani, and several Palestinians from allied fundamentalist groups, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Obeid, who reputedly formed Hezbollah's guerrilla wing in the south, was kidnapped from his home in the south Lebanon village of Jibsheet July 28, 1989.

Dirani, who headed a guerrilla group calling itself the Believers' Resistance, was snatched from his home in the east Lebanon village of Usarnaba by helicopter-borne Israeli raiders May 21 this year.

Israeli government leaders have said since Dirani's kidnapping that they have obtained information about Arad's whereabouts and condition, but did not elaborate.

Dirani was chief of the security apparatus of the pro-Syrian Amal Shiite militia when his men captured Arad.

Dirani later broke with Amal and turned over Arad to Iranian Revolutionary Guards based in the Bekaa Valley of east Lebanon.

The other missing Israelis are Sgt. Zakhary Baumel, Sgt. Zvi Feldman and Cpl. Yehuda Katz. They have been MIAs since a June 1982 battle with Syrian T-72 tanks during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

^RK-FN-EB<
07nov94

R1008 s 111 00/61 ------
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 4th Ld-Writethru<
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 4th Ld-Writethru<
^Shiites Bury Victim of Bombing, Vow Retaliation Against Israel<
^Eds: UPDATES with premier's comment. TRIMS<
^AP Photo BEI-101/102<
^By SAMIR F. GHATTAS=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Screaming ``Death to America'' and ``Death to Israel,'' Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim militants Thursday buried car bomb victim Fuad Mughniyeh, brother of a leading extremist blamed for kidnapping dozens of Westerners, and vowed vengeance.

The fundamentalist Shiite guerrillas of Hezbollah, or Party of God, said they will launch ``special operations'' against Israel, who they blame for Wednesday's bombing.

Three people were killed instantly and 16 wounded. One of the wounded died Thursday.

As usual in Lebanon, there was no claim of responsibility for bombing. But Prime Minister Rafik Hariri also pointed the finger at Israel, accusing its Mossad secret service.

``This conviction is based on several reports submitted to the government by various Lebanese security branches,'' he said after a Cabinet session.

Israeli officials declined comment on the allegations. But military officials had threatened reprisals for Hezbollah's intensified guerrilla attacks on Israel's self-proclaimed ``security zone,'' an occupied border strip in south Lebanon.

Nineteen Israeli soldiers and 34 Lebanese militiamen of the Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army have been killed in the south this year. Three of the Israeli fatalities were this month.

Police said the bomb, an estimated 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of explosives, was hidden in a gray Volkswagen car blew up outside Mughniyeh's plumbing warehouse in the southern Chiyah suburb, a Hezbollah stronghold.

The other fatalities _ a Syrian laborer and two Lebanese Shiites, including a woman who died in hospital Thursday morning _ were buried privately.

Some 2,000 mourners marched through Chiyah in a Hezbollah-led funeral procession for Mughniyeh, 31, a Hezbollah official and younger brother of Imad Mughniyeh, the movement's security chief and who allegedly masterminded the Western hostage crisis in the 1980s.

Western intelligence agencies have also blamed Imad Mughniyeh for organizing a string of suicide bombings in Lebanon in which hundreds of Americans, Frenchmen, Israelis and Lebanese perished.

He is wanted by the United States for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner in which a U.S. Navy diver was killed and 39 Americans were held hostage for 17 days.

It was not known whether Mughniyeh, who shuttles between Tehran and Beirut and rarely appears in public, attended the funeral. But other Hezbollah chieftains linked with him were there.

They included the movement's Beirut security chief, Abdul-Hadi Hamadi and his brother Abbas, released from a German prison earlier this year.

Mughniyeh's only other brother, Jihad, was among 75 people killed in a March 1985 car bombing in south Beirut that was widely seen as an attempt to assassinate Hezbollah's spiritual guide, Sheik Hussein Fadlallah.

It was not clear whether Fuad Mughniyeh was targeted because of his notorious brother.

The funeral crowd, stabbing clenched fists into the air, marched behind Mughniyeh's casket, carried by several men and draped with Hezbollah's yellow and green flag, to Chiyah's cemetery, where Fadlallah led prayers.

``Israel will not terrorize us, and the resistance is our response,'' the mourners, led by Hezbollah's deputy chief Sheik Naim Kassem, chanted.

``Don't think that your car bombs will make us tremble or weaken our determination,'' Kassem told Israeli leaders in a eulogy. ``On the contrary, it will increase our base of support.''

Threatening intensified attacks against the Israelis, Kassem alleged: ``We shall make their wails exceed ours.''

The head of Hezbollah's politburo, Hussein Al-Khalil, was quoted by Beirut newspapers Thursday as saying: ``The resistance will retaliate against the enemy and teach him a lesson through special operations.''

Amid fears of further bombings, security forces intensified surveillance to prevent further violence, security sources reported.

Interior Minister Michel Murr put all police and army units on alert and ordered intensified efforts to arrest the bombers.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said two owners of the Volkswagen have been detained for questioning, but are not considered suspects.

Hundreds of Christians and Moslems perished in bombings during the 1975-90 civil war, but the practice has all but [illegible] since the government has restored law and order to much [illegible] over the past few years.

[illegible] last bombing was Feb. 27 at a church north of Beirut. [illegible] worshipers and [illegible] in the attack. [illegible]

RT674 4 i 592 NCE4681
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah

^Hezbollah Blames America For Israeli Blitz, Urges Boycott Of U.S. Goods<
^AP Photos BEI-101-104<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Under big banners screaming ''Death to America'' and ''Death to Israel,'' Hezbollah leaders blamed the United States Tuesday for Israel's 16-day bombing blitz in Lebanon and called for a boycott of U.S. goods.

''Try to boycott as much as you can American goods. Buy instead European, Japanese, Chinese or any goods. This might force America to reconsider its (Middle East) policy,'' Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, told a mass rally in south Beirut.

''There are people who shout anti-American slogans while they carry packs of Marlboro cigarettes in their pockets,'' he said. ''We have to use economic weapons against America.''

Hezbollah's secretary General, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, also addressed the rally, saying Israel's assault had failed to achieve its objective of destroying Hezbollah.

Hezbollah is spearheading a guerrilla war to drive the Israelis out of a border enclave in south Lebanon they have occupied since 1985.

''They came to Lebanon to strike the resistance,'' Nasrallah said. ''This is the objective of the aggression. Had this objective been achieved, Lebanon would have been forced to unilaterally sign a peace treaty (with Israel) and Syria would have been isolated so that America and Israel can impose their terms (for peace).''

The rally was organized by Hezbollah to commemorate the death of 165 Lebanese, mostly civilians, who were killed during Israel's onslaught last month. The death toll climbed Tuesday when Hezbollah announced that a wounded guerrilla had died, bringing its total losses to 14 killed. Another 338 people were wounded.

Stringent security was clamped during the rally. The area had been sealed off since the morning, even though the rally did not start until mid-afternoon. Hezbollah security men carefully watched motorists and searched participants, while Lebanese policemen directed traffic in the densely populated area.

About 500 Hezbollah fighters, some described through loudspeakers as members of the group's battalion of suicide bombers were paraded to the cheering crowds.

The youths, their faces camouflaged with black ink, wore head bands that read: ''Oh, Jerusalem, we're coming'' and ''Oh, Khomeini, we're coming.''

Big portraits of Iran's late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the current spiritual leader Ali Khamenei were hung behind the podium.

On the platform, there was a model of two Katyusha rockets aimed at a color drawing of two Israeli warplanes.

Israel launched its offensive to stop Hezbolllah from firing Katyushas on northern Israeli towns.

Nasrallah accused the United States of supporting the Israeli onslaught and vowed to carry on the guerrilla war to dislodge Israeli forces from the occupied enclave, which has a predominantly Shiite Muslim population of 200,000.

He also criticized President Clinton's failure to condemn the death of 91 Lebanese civilians in Israeli shellfire that hit a U.N. base in the southern town of Qana, where they were sheltering on April 18.

''In the (U.S. President) Clinton era, the victim is condemned while the criminal is absolved,'' Nasrallah said.

The Qana carnage spurred a U.S.-led diplomatic initiative, which culiminated in a cease-fire understanding on April 27.
^hd-fn-mz<

071816 may 96

NCB6292-----
U Ibx
intj 888 nat nic nicd jer
^BC-Lebanon-Israel<
^Hezbollah Leader Calls For Revolt Against Israeli Occupation<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The most influential Shiite Muslim cleric in Lebanon called Thursday for a popular revolt against Israeli forces occupying a southern border enclave.

Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, accused Israel of repressing the enclave's mainly Shiite population.

Addressing the estimated 200,000 Shiites living in the occupied sector, which Israel calls its ''security zone,'' Fadlallah said: ''You should move in a calculated manner to stage a calculated popular uprising because Israel has exploited popular silence to go ahead with its repressive treatment.''

Fadlallah, whose statement was reported by Beirut newspapers and radio stations, said the Shiite Hezbollah's guerrilla war to drive Israel out the occupied zone will not be affected by the change of government in Israel.

He said Hezbollah's ''mujahedeen,'' or holy warriors, ''are ready to strike at the Israeli army, even if it is under the command of the Likud Bloc.''

The fundamentalist Hezbollah's ''resistance has succeeded since the occupation began in dealing powerful and qualitative strikes against the enemy,'' he added.

Israel established the zone in 1985 to protect its northern towns from cross-border attacks. It is garrisoned by some 1,200 Israeli soldiers and militiamen of the 2,500-strong Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army.

On June 10, Hezbollah guerrillas killed five Israeli soldiers and wounded eight in an ambush in the security zone. It was the deadliest attack since a U.S.-brokered cease-fire halted a 16-day Israeli bombing blitz in south Lebanon in April.

At least 165 people, mostly Lebanese civilians, were killed in that onslaught.

Israel's new hard-line prime minister, right-wing Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, has vowed to retaliate for Monday's ambush.

The cease-fire understanding prohibits attacks on civilian targets on both sides of the border, but does not preclude military operations inside the occupied zone.

Both Israel and Hezbollah have accused each other of violating the cease-fire.

On Thursday, Hezbollah guerrillas clashed with the SLA on the edge of the occupied zone, security sources reported. No casualties were reported after the guerrillas attacked the militiamen with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades.

Israeli and SLA gunners retaliated by shelling suspected guerrilla hideouts in hills and villages facing the enclave. No casualties were reported.

Fadlallah and Hezbollah's secretary general, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, have issued appeals to the mostly Shiite SLA militiamen to defect, promising to guarantee their safety if they do so.

^HD-FN-EB<
June 20, 1996

HCM0185-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 09-12 0754
nic brt int inta inte lonp
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^NY INT: for feature use. PHOTOS: Beirut is sending BEI-102 to London on Sept. 12, which shows Hezbollah mourners at a funeral.
^In Lebanon, Fundamentalists Change Tactics As Influence Wanes<
^AP Photo Available<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Hezbollah, the umbrella group for extremists who snatched hostages and launched spectacular attacks during Lebanon's anarchy of the 1980s, is now inviting Westerners to come as tourists.

''Hezbollah Welcomes You By His Pioneer Values,'' says the slightly confusing, English-language banner near the ancient Roman ruins in Baalbek, a Hezbollah stronghold that was off limits to foreigners during the 1975-90 civil war.

With Lebanon's central government reasserting its control, Hezbollah and other Islamic fundamentalist groups have seen their fortunes wane. They now seek to portray themselves as less extreme and willing to work with mainstream parties.

Hezbollah still battles Israeli troops in south Lebanon, and still receives support from Iran, but it's made a sharp change in tactics since the 1980s, when it sought to establish an Islamic state patterned after Iran.

Shiite Muslim extremists linked to Hezbollah were involved in the kidnappings of Westerners as well as dramatic attacks such as the 1983 suicide bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut that left more than 240 dead.

Since the last Western hostages were released three years ago, there have been no kidnappings and shadowy extremist groups that operated under Hezbollah's tutelage have pledged to refrain from hostage-taking.

Gone are the days when Hezbollah gunmen roamed the chaotic streets of Muslim west Beirut, smashing bottles of liquor and wrecking bars.

In Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah has substantial support, women no longer face orders to be fully covered. On the streets, female fashions range from miniskirts to chadors, the shapeless head-to-toe black garb.

''It is not part of our thinking to impose by force our views on Lebanese society,'' said Sheik Nabil Kaouk, a top Hezbollah guerrilla commander in south Lebanon. ''It is up to people to choose.''

But Hezbollah's tolerance has limits.

Deputy Secretary General Sheik Naim Kassem said Hezbollah will not allow its strongholds to be ''debauched,'' a reference to the Christian regions north of Beirut where nightclubs and bars abound.

And Hezbollah's rank-and-file still display the same anti-American and anti-Israeli fervor when they get the chance.

At a recent funeral for slain Hezbollah guerrillas in eastern Lebanon, shouts of ''Death To America'' and ''Death To Israel'' thundered from the mourners.

But, unlike the highly charged processions of the 1980s, the young men of Hezbollah had no visible weapons.

Ironically, Islamic fundamentalism in Lebanon has been declining at a time when it is on the rise in several countries in the region, including Egypt, Sudan and Algeria.

The Lebanese, fed up with the devastation of the civil war, have shown little interest in hard-line groups that could again fracture the country.

Also, the Middle East peace negotiations presented Hezbollah and other fundamentalists with a tough choice: compromise or face the possibility of being swept away by changing times.

A turning point for Hezbollah came in 1992, when it participated in Lebanon's 52-year-old sectarian political system, which it never recognized previously. The movement won eight of the 128 seats in the first postwar parliamentary elections.

Seeking popular support, Hezbollah has expanded its social-service network, building schools and hospitals and digging wells. Fresh water tanks were installed on street corners in south Beirut to help Shiite residents cope with water shortages.

While most civil war militias have laid down their arms, Hezbollah still has weapons and uses them in opposing Israeli occupation forces in a border enclave in south Lebanon.

Its longstanding policy has been to seek the elimination of Israel. But that position appears to be softening, too.

Hezbollah leaders have dodged questions on whether they will continue fighting should Israel withdraw from south Lebanon.

Defense Minister Mohsen Dalloul, a moderate Shiite, has predicted that an Israeli pullout will lead Hezbollah to stop fighting and focus on a political campaign against the normalization of ties with Israel.

^(hd-sfg-fn-gm)<
AP-LD-09-12-95 1315GMT<

RT713 5 III 00842 -----
AP-^BC-FEATURE-Lebanon-Hezbollah Shift,0911<
^BC-FEATURE-Lebanon-Hezbollah Shift,0911<
^In Lebanon, Fundamentalists Change Tactics as Influence Wanes<
^AP Photo NY301 of Oct. 24; AP Graphic LEBANON HEZBOLLAH<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Hezbollah, the umbrella group for extremist Islamic fundamentalists who kidnapped dozens of foreigners in the 1980s, is now inviting Westerners to come visit its strongholds as tourists.

''Hezbollah Welcomes You By His Pioneer Values,'' says a slightly muddled English-language banner near the ancient Roman ruins in Baalbek, a Hezbollah redoubt that was off limits to foreigners during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Hezbollah's new face is a recognition of its waning influence, ironically at a time that Islamic fundamentalism is on the rise in other countries in the region, including Egypt, Sudan and Algeria.

The coalition has been weakened by the growing authority of Lebanon's central government and by a shrinking flow of money from its cash-strapped sponsor, Iran.

Many Lebanese also have shown little interest in supporting hard-line groups that could again fracture the country after the devastation of the civil war.

Seeking to retain a role in the nation's politics, Hezbollah, as well as nonviolent Islamic fundamentalist groups, has adopted less extreme positions and shown more willingness to work with mainstream parties.

Hezbollah guerrillas still battle Israeli troops occupying southern Lebanon, but the group has made a sharp change in tactics since the 1980s when it sought to establish an Islamic state patterned after Iran. Hezbollah now speaks of achieving a democratic Islamic state through nonviolence.

Shiite Muslim militants linked to Hezbollah were involved in the kidnappings of Westerners and several dramatic attacks, including the 1983 suicide bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut that killed more than 240.

The last Western hostages were released three years ago. Shadowy extremist groups that operated under Hezbollah's tutelage have pledged to refrain from hostage-taking.

Gone are the days when Hezbollah gunmen roamed the chaotic streets of Muslim west Beirut, smashing liquor bottles and wrecking bars.

In Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah has substantial support, women no longer face orders to be fully covered. Most women continue to wear modest clothing or chadors, the shapeless head-to-toe black garb, but the occasional miniskirt is not challenged.

''It is not part of our thinking to impose by force our views on Lebanese society,'' said Sheik Nabil Kaouk, a top Hezbollah guerrilla commander in southern Lebanon. ''It is up to people to choose.''

But Hezbollah's tolerance has limits.

Sheik Naim Kassem, the group's deputy secretary-general, says Hezbollah will not allow its strongholds to be ''debauched,'' a reference to the Christian regions north of Beirut where nightclubs and bars abound.

And Hezbollah's rank and file still display the same anti-American and anti-Israeli fervor when they get the chance.

At a recent funeral for slain Hezbollah guerrillas in eastern Lebanon, shouts of ''Death to America'' and ''Death to Israel'' thundered from the mourners. But unlike the highly charged processions of the 1980s, the young men of Hezbollah had no visible weapons.

The Middle East peace negotiations have presented Hezbollah and other fundamentalists with a tough choice: compromise or face the possibility of being swept away by changing times.

A turning point for Hezbollah came in 1992 when it participated in Lebanon's 52-year-old sectarian political system, which it had not recognized previously. The movement won eight of the 128 seats in the first postwar parliamentary elections.

Hezbollah is seeking support by playing on mounting discontent with government policies, especially among the poor who comprise the majority of the country's 1.2 million Shiite Muslims. The Shiites are the largest single sect in this country of 4 million people.

Hezbollah has championed issues of social justice. It has built schools and hospitals and dug wells. Water tanks were installed on street corners in south Beirut to help Shiite residents cope with shortages.

While most civil war militias have laid down their arms, Hezbollah still has weapons and uses them against Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon.

Its longstanding policy has been to seek the elimination of Israel. But that position appears to be softening, too.

Hezbollah leaders have dodged questions on whether they will continue fighting if Israel withdraws from the south.

To continue the fight would put Hezbollah on a collision course with the government, which has pledged to prevent cross-border attacks on Israel after a full Israeli withdrawal.

But for now, Syria and Iran have intertwined interests in Hezbollah's survival. Syria, the dominant power in Lebanon, can use Hezbollah attacks in southern Lebanon as a bargaining chip in the peace negotiations with Israel.

For Iran, Hezbollah is a foothold for influence in Lebanon _ and in any Middle East peace settlement.

Defense Minister Mohsen Dalloul, a moderate Shiite, predicts that an Israeli pullout will lead Hezbollah to stop fighting and focus on a political campaign against the normalization of ties with Israel.

310128 Oct GMT

RTT4291-
r ibx
inti nat nic nicd 888
^BC-Iran-Hezbollah<
^Hezbollah Guerrillas Visit Iran<

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) Thirty-five Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas arrived Tuesday to meet spiritual leader Ali Khamenei and visit religious Muslim shrines, the official Iran radio reported.

The men were among 45 guerrillas released by Israel in July in exchange for the remains of two Israeli soldiers under a deal between the Shiite Hezbollah, or Party of God, and Israel.

The exchange was brokered by a German envoy.

Israel accuses Iran of giving military and financial support to Hezbollah guerrillas, who fight Israeli troops and an allied militia in a south Lebanon border enclave held by the Jewish state since 1985.

Iran, ruled by fundamentalist Muslim clergymen since 1979, opposes U.S.-sponsored, Arab-Israeli peace moves and views the Jewish state as an unmitigated evil which must be destroyed.

Iranian President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani said last week that Tehran only supports Hezbollah politically.

^FSA-TI-HH<

Oct. 15, 1996

RT347 4 i 483 NC:35:53
^BC Lebanon US<

^Hezbollah Demands Apology From U.S. Ambassador<
^By MORSHED DANDASH
^Associated Press Writer=

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) _ The Hezbollah guerrilla group urged the government Saturday to reject the appointment of U.S. ambassador-designate Richard Jones for reportedly calling it a terrorist organization.

''The American ambassador has insulted the entire Lebanese people who take pride in terrorizing the aggressors (Israelis),'' Hezbollah's deputy Secretary-General Sheik Naim Kassem said.

''The Lebanese government is called upon to abstain from receiving the letter of credence of the new American ambassador until he makes a public apology,'' Kassem added.

He made the statement to reporters and politicians during a visit to Hednayel, a village near east Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek, the main training and supplies base of Hezbollah, or Party of God. The pro-Iranian guerrilla organization is fighting Israeli occupation of a border enclave in south Lebanon.

Kassem was responding to an interview published Tuesday by the independent Beirut newspaper An-Nahar in which Jones was quoted as saying ''the United States considers Hezbollah a terrorist organization.''

The prestigious daily said the interview was conducted in Washington shortly before Jones took the oath of office as the United States' first ambassador to Lebanon in nearly 20 months.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was unlikely that the government would heed Hezbollah's call.

Jones was quoted by An-Nahar as saying that when he takes up his post he would not be able to deal with Hezbollah or its eight elected members in the Lebanese parliament.

''I cannot deal with them (Hezbollah deputies) unless we are totally convinced that I am not having any relation with a parliament member linked to terrorist activity,'' Jones was quoted as saying.

Asked whether he meant that Hezbollah's parliament members were related to terrorism, Jones was quoted as saying: ''The assumption is that there is such a connection if they are members of Hezbollah.''

The Lebanese media says Jones is expected to arrive in Beirut before the end of February.

He will replace Mark Hambley, who was withdrawn from Beirut for unspecified reasons in the summer of 1994, only nine months after his appointment. The United States has since been represented by a charge d'affaires.

Jones was quoted in An-Nahar's interview as saying he planned to give priority to the removal of Lebanon from the American blacklist.

The United States imposed a travel ban against Lebanon in 1987, following a spate of terrorist attacks against American interests and personnel.

These attacks, one of the many facets of the 1975-90 civil war, included hostage-taking, suicide bombing and aircraft hijackings.

^atr-ti-in-mz<

030842 feb 96

Hezbollah

RTG50 4 i 319 NCZ1848
^BC-Lebanon-US<

^Hezbollah a ''Terrorist'' Group Senior U.S. Official<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) A senior U.S. official said in remarks published Sunday that his government viewed Lebanon's Hezbollah guerrilla group as a terrorist organization.

His accusation echoed a similar charge made last week by Richard Jones, the U.S. ambassador-designate to Lebanon, against the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God.

''Hezbollah is exercising terrorism,'' Robert Pelletreau, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs, told the London-based, Arabic daily Al-Hayat in an interview.

''As long as any organization continues to exercise terrorism against individuals and (the) innocent will have a problem with the United States,'' said Pelletreau, interviewed in Washington.

Hezbollah, fighting to evict Israeli forces and their allied militiamen from a south Lebanon border enclave, shares Iran's opposition to the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process.

It has vowed to torpedo the process by stepping up attacks on the Israelis and the militiamen in the enclave, set up by the Jewish state in 1985 to protect its northern towns from cross-border guerrilla raids.

Hezbollah was angered by the terrorist label given to it by Jones in an interview published last week in Beirut's independent An-Nahar newspaper. It called on the government to reject his appointment, saying his remarks insulted the Lebanese people.

Officials said the government was unlikely to heed Hezbollah's call and Jones, expected to take up his post this month, told An-Nahar he would not deal with Hezbollah or its eight deputies in Lebanon's 128-seat parliament when he arrives in Beirut.

Jones will replace Mark Hambley, who left Beirut in the summer of 1994, only nine months after he arrived in Lebanon. The reasons behind his early departure remain unknown.
^BD-BB<

041041 Feb 96

RT824 4 i 506 NCD4899
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah

^Hezbollah Chief Admits Iran Is Financing Group<
^With BC-Iran-President<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ For the first time, the leader of Hezbollah acknowledged publicly in an interview published Monday that Iran is financing the group.

``We don't hide Iranian support. There is no need to deny that we receive financial and political support from Iran,'' said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Shiite Muslim militant group.

``We are not shy and they (Iranians) are not afraid about it,'' he said in an interview with the London-based Arabic language weekly Al Wasat.

It was the first public admission of Iranian financial support by a senior leader of Hezbollah, or Party of God.

The group has vociferously denounced the planned counter-terrorism summit at Egypt's Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheik Wednesday.

``Why doesn't one wonder why the United States is paying 3 billion dollars to the Zionist entity, which is attacking the entire region while condemnation is voiced over Iran's financial support for Hezbollah or any Islamic resistance faction fighting to liberate its land?'' Nasrallah said.

Hezbollah guerrillas are fighting to oust the 1,200 Israeli soldiers and 2,500 Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militiamen from an occupied border enclave in south Lebanon.

Israel established the enclave, known as a ``security zone,'' in 1985 as a buffer against cross-border guerrilla attacks on its northern towns.

Hezbollah guerrillas mounted a string of attacks on Israeli troops in the ``security zone'' Sunday, killing one and wounding five.

Nasrallah also said that Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, was facilitating Hezbollah's arms supplies through routes in northern and eastern Lebanon.

Syria maintains an estimated 40,000 troops in Lebanon, ostensibly as peacekeepers to prevent a rekindling of the 1975-90 civil war.

Nasrallah said since Hezbollah was founded in 1982 following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon that year, Syria has provided the party with ``a political cover, moral support and field facilities.''

``Syrian forces are stationed in the Bekaa (valley) and the north. These two areas constituted the background of support for resistance fighters in (Israeli)-occupied areas,'' he said.

``Of course, Syria didn't give us money. It has supported us and facilitated'' arms supplies, Nasrallah added.

Like its sponsor, Iran, Hezbollah opposes the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process and has vowed to torpedo it through intensified attacks in south Lebanon, the last active Arab-Israeli war front.

The Sharm el-Sheik summit, which will be attended by U.S. President Clinton and more than 30 other world leaders, was called to bolster Israel following a wave of suicide bombings which killed 61 people.

Hezbollah has hailed the bombings, which have been claimed by the Palestinian militant Hamas group, as an ``act of heroic Jihad (holy war) against occupation.''

^(hd-fn-mdm)<

111026 mar 96

RTTS676 3 i 600
^BC-Israel-Iran

file حزب الله pleez Hizbollah

^Israel: Iran Used Terror Mastermind In Bomb Plot Against Israel
^By NICOLAS B. TATRO=
^Associated Press Writer=

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) _ One of the world's most wanted terrorists _ the mastermind of the bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks and the kidnappings of Americans and other Westerners in Lebanon _ sent an agent to Israel recently with a bomb to carry out a terrorist attack, a senior Israeli official said Sunday.

Imad Mughniyeh, a one-time security chief of the Iran-backed Hezbollah militia, is also believed by Israel to have been involved in planning the 1992 bombing of Israel's embassy in Argentina in which 29 people were killed and the blast at a Buenos Aires Jewish center two years later that killed 95.

A senior official said Mughniyeh was believed to be in Lebanon or possibly Iran. He has not been seen in public since 1994.

''We are sure. We are quite sure,'' he said when asked if Israel had firm information that Mughniyeh was behind a recent bombing plot. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has accused Islamic extremists and Iran in particular of trying to kill the peace process and topple his government, which is facing elections May 29.

''There is a clear intervention on the part of terrorist organizations, Iran and the (Islamic) fundamentalists,'' Peres said during a campaign stop Sunday in the town of Rishon Letzion. They ''want to stop the peace process by using bombs and terrorism...to create the impression that you cannot trust the Arab side.''

The most solid proof of Iranian involvement, Israeli officials say, is the case of Hussein Mikdad, a Lebanese who arrived in Israel on April 4 aboard a Swissair flight carrying a kilogram (2.2 pounds) of RDX, a high-powered plastic explosive.

Mikdad lost both legs, an arm and both eyes when a bomb he was trying to assemble exploded in his Jerusalem hotel room on April 12.

The senior official said Mikdad was sent by Mughniyeh and had photographs of mosques in Jerusalem indicating he may have planned to carry out an act of provocation that would be blamed on Israel.

The official said Mughniyeh had been working with Iranian Revolutionary guards stationed in Lebanon.

In another case unconnected to Mughniyeh, officials said a bombing suspect was arrested last month and told interrogators that he had been recruited by the Iranian embassy in Ankara, Turkey, and flown to Iran for training. He was then sent to Israel to carry out an suicide attacks.

Mughniyeh, 33, was the brains behind Islamic Jihad, or Islamic Holy War, Hezbollah's strike arm and believed to be the organization behind most of the kidnappings of Westerners that began in 1984. He is reported to have personally carried out the kidnapping of Terry Waite, a British hostage negotiator who was abducted in 1987 and released four years later.

One of four Hezbollah activists named in U.S. indictments, Mughniyeh is wanted in the June 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner in which a U.S. Navy diver was murdered and 37 passengers held for 17 days. He has also been linked to the 1987-88 hijackings of two Kuwaiti airliners.

Mughniyeh and his clan organized the suicide bombings against U.S. Marine barracks and the French paratroopers in Beirut in October 1983, in which 299 men were killed.

His last public appearance was at the funeral of his brother Fuad, who was killed on Dec. 12, 1994, when a booby-trapped car blew up in the southern suburb of Beirut. The bomb may have been intended for Imad.
^nbt-dp<

191553 may 96

NCE4837-----
r ibx
intj nat nic nicd 888u
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<

^Government Accuses Hezbollah of Challenging Authority<

^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ In a sign of growing dispute with Hezbollah guerrillas, Prime Minister Rafik Hariri Wednesday accused the pro-Iranian group of challenging government authority.

It was Hariri's harshest criticism of the Shiite Muslim militants since signs of friction emerged during a 16-day Israeli onslaught against Hezbollah last month.

In biting remarks at a rally Monday, Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah told Hariri to ''correct your understanding of the resistance, and correct your vocabulary when you speak about the resistance.

''If your vocabulary does not help you, then take some lessons in Arabic composition,'' Nasrallah said.

Nasrallah was clearly irritated by recent comments by Hariri in which he said Israeli attacks on Lebanon would not solve ''the problem of Hezbollah.''

In response to Nasrallah's remarks, Hariri's office said in a statement Wednesday that ''the prime minister has affirmed that the Lebanese state does not agree with the party's political platform, literature, showoff conduct and its logic of constantly challenging the concept of the state.

''The party's contacts and political platform tend to weaken the role of the state,'' it said.

In last month's Israeli onslaught, warplanes, naval gunboats and artillery guns hammered public utilities, destroying power stations, road networks and water reservoirs.

Hariri said the attacks undermined his efforts to rebuild Lebanon from the 1975-90 civil war destruction. Israel said the offensive was prompted by Hezbollah attacks on northern Israel, and renewed its demand that the group be disbanded.

The Lebanese government regards Hezbollah's struggle against Israeli troops occupying a border enclave in south Lebanon as legitimate resistance. It repeatedly has said that Hezbollah would be disarmed once Israeli troops withdraw.

But the government is growing increasingly concerned that Hezbollah's infrastructure eventually may pose a challenge to its authority.

Hezbollah controls some Shiite areas in south Beirut and has strong presence in villages in eastern and southern Lebanon.

The group runs its own schools, supermarkets and hospitals. It also has a radio station and television network.

Hezbollah's social services include free delivery of fresh water distribution in the poor Shiite neighborhoods.

The Hezbollah-Hariri tension came at a time of strain in Lebanon's relations with Iran, Hezbollah's mentor and financial backer.

Iranian envoys have capitalized on the Israeli onslaught to launch a direct humanitarian offensive to help their Shiite brethren in the south, irking the Lebanese government.

^hd-sfg-mz<
May 29, 1996

Hezbullah

zarc221-----
r ibx
nicd
^BC-Lebanon-Mughniyeh Profile (December 1991)<
^Kidnap Chief Behind Mideast Terror Wave<
^By ED BLANCHE=
^Associated Press Writer=

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) _ Imad Mughniyeh, leader of the Shiite Muslim extremists who held most of the Western hostages in Lebanon, ranks with Abu Nidal as one of the world’s terrorist masterminds.

Mughniyeh and his zealots have blazed a trail of terror across the Middle East for nearly a decade.

Hundreds of people have been killed in bombings, hijackings and assassinations they carried out in a rampage bloodier than the atrocities blamed on Abu Nidal, the Palestinian radical who has long been one of the world’s most wanted terrorists.

Mughniyeh, 29, was the chief security officer for the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, the Lebanese fundamentalist faction considered to be the parent movement for the Shiite kidnap groups.

He was the brains behind Islamic Jihad, or Islamic Holy War, Hezbollah’s strike arm and believed to be the organization behind virtually all the kidnappings of Westerners since 1984.

Mughniyeh’s clan, which comes from south Lebanon, and the Hamadi clan from the eastern Bekaa Valley, form the core of this terrorist organization.

Mughniyeh carries an Iranian diplomatic passport and is a constant visitor in Tehran, where he stays in a small hotel guarded by Iranian security men.

He travels to the Iranian capital through Syria, Iran’s main Arab ally, albeit an increasingly uneasy one.

Since the last American and British hostages were freed in December 1991, Mughniyeh and his family were reported to have moved from Beirut to Tehran, presumably for safety in case Western intelligence agencies come after them.

During fighting between pro-Iranian and pro-Syrian factions in Lebanon three years ago, the Syrians arrested Mughniyeh in Damascus, but released him when Tehran intervened.

His family are all staunch Hezbollah supporters. His grandfather was a prominent in the struggle against the French, who ruled the Levant under a League of Nations mandate from 1921 to 1943. He was a key figure in the underground Society of Jebel Amel, the Shiite name for south Lebanon.

Mughniyeh’s father, Fayez, 54, has been a lifelong fundamentalist zealot widely feared by his fellow Shiites around the family’s home village of Tir Dabba in south Lebanon, 8 miles (13 kilometers) east of Tyre.

Imad Mughniyeh was born there July 12, 1962, according to Lebanese civil registration documents. He was the eldest of four children born to Fayez and his wife, Amina, now 52, following their marriage in 1961.

Eight years ago, while his men were carrying out a wave of bombings against Americans in Lebanon, Mugniyeh married his cousin, Saada Badreddin, whose family are also staunch anti-Western fundamentalists.

The couple have a daughter, Fatima, born in 1984, and a son, Mustafa, born in 1987. Mughniyeh rarely sees them while he wages his clandestine war against the West.

A high-school dropout, he first took up the gun as a teenager when he joined the Palestine Liberation Organization in Beirut.

By all accounts, he was a quick learner, adept with firearms and explosives. He is believed to have later joined Force 17, the elite security force in Yasser Arafat’s mainstream Fatah movement.

Much of his childhood was spent in the festering Shiite slums of south Beirut. In this pressure-cooker environment, Mughniyeh’s commitment to Shiite fundamentalism swelled. He made the pilgrimage to Mecca, which all Muslims are expected to do once in their lives. That earned him the honorific title of ``hajj.''

He left the PLO in 1982, when the Israelis invaded Lebanon, and with his younger brother Fuad joined Hezbollah, founded by the Iranians as their strike arm in a land where they had dreams of creating an Iranian-style Islamic republic.

With his PLO background, Mughniyeh was soon taken under the wing of Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, Hezbollah's ''spiritual guide,'' who put him in charge of the party's ''special apparatus.''

Mughniyeh's hatred of the West stems mainly from his father. This grew after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979 gave sharp focus to Muslim anti-Western hostility. The 1982 invasion of Lebanon by Israel, considered to be Washington's regional ally, fueled Shiite anger against the Americans.

But Mughniyeh's hatred was personalized with the death of his brother Jihad, a bodyguard for Hezbollah spiritual leader Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, Shiite sources close to the family said.

Jihad was killed along with 74 people in a car bombing outside Fadlallah's home in the Bir el-Abed district of south Beirut March 8, 1985.

Hezbollah blamed the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. The attack was reputedly carried out by a Lebanese counter-terrorism team formed by the CIA in Beirut.

The Mughniyehs and Hamadis organized the suicide truck bombings against U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut in October 1983. Three hundred men were killed.

With Iranian and Syrian support, they also bombed U.S. embassy buildings in Beirut twice in 1983 and 1984, killing 72 people, including the CIA's then top Middle East expert, Robert Ames, and several of his aides.

Mughniyeh's activists and the Hamadis, using various cover names like Holy Warriors for Freedom and Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, have kidnapped at least 50 Americans, Frenchmen, Britons, Germans and other foreigners in Lebanon since 1984 and hijacked at least four airliners.

In 1987, during fighting in Beirut, Mughniyeh moved some of the hostages to his parents' home in Tir Dibba for safekeeping, Shiites sources close to the family told The Associated Press.

Several blindfolded Westerners were driven from Beirut to Tir Dibba, which has a population of around 1,000, the sources said.

The captives, roped together by their wrists, were seen being herded into the two-story house by a group of heavily armed men.

The sources said cartons of cigarettes, large amounts of chicken and other food were carried in every day for the hostages and their guards. Armed men patrolled the roof day and night until the hostages were moved out.

While the kidnappings were not necessarily carried out on orders from Tehran, they benefitted the Iranians.

They got secret shipments of U.S. weapons in 1985-86 in return for releasing hostages and France repaid a dlrs 1 billion loan made by the late shah. The kidnappers are believed to have been paid millions of dollars to release captives.

Informed sources in Beirut said Mughniyeh personally kidnapped Terry Waite, the Church of England envoy mediating to free American hostages, Jan.20, 1987.

The sources said Waite was lured to a rendezvous without his Druse Muslim bodyguards at a Shiite physician's house in west Beirut. After he was seized, he is believed to have been spirited away hidden in the back of a garbage truck.

Mughniyeh suspected that Waite was a CIA plant and was also bitter that the British negotiator had failed to secure the release of 17 pro-Iranian extremists imprisoned in Kuwait for December 1983 bombings in the northern Gulf emirate in which six people were killed.

Freeing the 17 was the central demand of Islamic Jihad, which kidnapped CIA station chief William Buckley, the Rev. Benjamin Weir, Associated Press Correspondent Terry Anderson and other Americans in 1985.

Two of the 17 were freed in February 1989 after serving their five-year sentences. The others, including Mughniyeh's cousin and brother-in-law, Mustapha Youssef Badreddin, were freed when Iraq invaded Kuwait last August.

Badreddin is a senior figure in an Iranian-backed Iraqi Shiite terrorist group called ad-Dawa Islami, or Islamic Call.

According to Lebanese sources, Muhniyeh also has links with Abu Nidal's group through a Palestinian, a senior figure in that group who is related to the Islamic Jihad chieftain by marriage.

Before Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, the emirate repeatedly refused to free the men and on May 25, 1985, Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attempted assassination of the emir of Kuwait, Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah.

A Shiite suicide bomber rammed a car loaded with explosives into the emir's motorcade, killing two bodyguards as well as himself.

Mughniyeh and Mohammad Ali Hamadi were named, along with two other Lebanese Shiites, by U.S. authorities as the hijackers of a TWA airliner seized in June 1985.

Mughniyeh is believed to have organized the TWA hijacking, as well as the seizure of a Kuwait Airways jumbo jet Dec.4, 1987, and another Kuwaiti airliner in April 1988.

During the 1988 hijack, the sky pirates ordered the jumbo jet flown to Larnaca, Cyprus, and British military sources on the Mediterranean island said intercepts of radio traffic to and from the jetliner indicated that at least one of the four TWA suspects was aboard the Kuwaiti aircraft.

Mughniyeh has been tagged by Western Intelligence agencies for years. But his organization, based on a tight-knit clan structure, is almost impossible to penetrate.

Islamic Jihad exists in the rabbit-warren Shiite slums of south Beirut and the village network in Shiite-dominated south Lebanon, where strangers are quickly spotted, making attempts to rescue hostages virtually impossible.

Mughniyeh, sources say, always carries two or three handguns and is usually protected by heavily armed bodyguards when he moves around.

U.S. officials said the CIA floated a plan in 1985 to abduct Mughniyeh after they got a tip he was in France.

But the idea was dropped because the French were at that time negotiating to free their citizens held in Lebanon and Washington did not want to damage relations with Paris. The risk that his capture might cause harm to the hostages was also a factor.

But Mughniyeh's cohorts have not been so lucky.

Mohammed Ali Hamadi, named by U.S. authorities as one of the TWA hijackers, was arrested at Frankfurt airport Jan. 13, 1987, trying to smuggle liquid methyl nitrate explosives hidden in wine bottles into Germany, apparently for bombings in Europe.

Hamadi was sentenced to life imprisonment in May 1987 for the TWA hijacking and the slaying of a U.S. Navy diver on the plane.

In retaliation, his brothers kidnapped two Germans, Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt, in west Beirut seeking to trade them for Mohammad Ali, or at least prevent his extradition to the United States.

One brother, Abbas, was himself arrested in Frankfurt in January 1987 on charges of kidnapping the Germans. He was later sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment.

The Hamadis' older brother, Abdul-Hadi, 27, heads Hezbollah's Beirut security apparatus and works closely with Mughniyeh.

The arrest of the Hamadis, both members of Hezbollah, triggered another hijacking.

Hussein Hariri, a 21-year-old Lebanese Shiite, commandeered an Air Afrique airliner July 24, 1987, to Zurich, demanding the Hamadis' release. Hariri was overwhelmed by the crew after he shot dead a French passenger.

^EB<

December 1991

RTT2061 4 i 597
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah

^Hezbollah Reburies Dead Guerrillas Returned By Israel<
^AP Photos Planned<
^By RODEINA KENAAN=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ A sea of mourners vowing vengeance Tuesday reburied the corpses of 123 Hezbollah guerrillas swapped for the remains of two Israeli soldiers.

Chants of ``go to paradise'' and ``the blood of the martyrs will be avenged'' rang out from tens of thousands of mourners walking with clenched fists behind coffins draped in Hezbollah's yellow-and-green flags.

Weeping women in black chadors waved white handkerchiefs from rooftops and balconies as the procession passed through the streets of Beirut, east Lebanon's ancient town of Baalbek and the southern port of Sidon.

The victims were killed in guerrilla attacks on a south Lebanon enclave Israel has occupied for the past 10 years. Their remains, exhumed from a northern Israeli cemetery, were returned to Lebanon on Sunday.

Israel also released 45 pro-Hezbollah Lebanese prisoners in exchange for the skeletons of privates Rahamim Alsheikh and American-born Yosef Fink, who died after their capture by Hezbollah guerillas in a south Lebanon 1986 ambush.

They were given a Jewish burial Monday in back-to-back funerals attended by thousands of mourners and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem.

Netanyahu, who attended both funerals, said he hoped peace would bring an end to the pain caused by war.

``We will strive for true peace, so that there will be no more mourning parents,'' he said.

But Hezbollah's leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah struck a belligerent note in his eulogy of his group's dead members in Beirut on Tuesday.

``We shall continue to attack and fight,'' Nasrallah said. ``Our glorious holy war will rage on without letup to expel the Israeli occupier from our land. There shall be no de-escalation as a result of the swap operation,'' he said.

Islam's battle cry of ``Allahu Akbar,'' or God is Great, reverberated through the crowd when Nasrallah said:

``I vow, before you all, that we shall take revenge for our martyrs. Let the enemy realize that every one of our martyrs is more valuable than all the Jews alive.''

Sixty-four coffins, bedecked with red and white roses, were then raised on outstretched palms and borne from the courtyard of the Great Prophet mosque in south Beirut to their graves in a suburban cemetery.

Each wooden casket, doused with chemicals to quell the stench of death, was carried by six black-dressed comrades who marched in unison with somber drumbeats for the burial, according to Shiite Muslim religious rites.

Forty-seven others were buried in Sidon and 12 in Baalbek.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's top intelligence adviser, Bernd Schmidbauer, negotiated the exchange in three months of secret negotiations in the Middle East.

Schmidbauer said upon his return to Frankfurt Monday night that he believed an Israeli airman captured by Islamic militants in Lebanon nine years ago was still alive.

He expressed hope that more prisoner and body exchanges would be arranged through Germany, including the release of Capt. Ron Arad, the missing Israeli navigator.

Arad's F-4 Phantom jet was shot down during an air raid on Sidon on Oct. 16, 1986. Israel believes he is alive and in Iranian hands. Iran denies holding him.

Nasrallah has said that during the recent negotiations that led to Sunday's swap, he promised Schmidbauer his group would search for and seek information about Arad.

^(rk-fn-mdm)<

231413 jul 96

RTT7476 4 i 744
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah's Other Face,0755<

^New face for Islamic militants: pragmatism, providing services<
^AP Photo NY107<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

HOUMIN FAWQAH, Lebanon (AP) _ In its battle to drive Israel from south Lebanon, Hezbollah's main weapons have been the roadside bomb and the assault rifle. Now the guerrilla group has added medicine, school books and bargain-priced food to its arsenal.

Trying to broaden its political influence, the Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim movement is providing social services to the poor _ its main constituents _ and trying to better their lives through its members in Lebanon's Parliament.

The group's aid goes mostly into its strongholds, villages in southern and eastern Lebanon and the Beirut slums, where Hezbollah is thought of not as the terrorist group the West says it is but as protector and provider.

``While we have been neglected by the government, Hezbollah gives us financial aid to help us enroll our children in schools and get medical treatment,'' said Wahab Hejazi.

His home in this Shiite village is 18 kilometers (11 miles) from Israel's border, but it sits below a hilltop observation post of the occupied zone that Israel maintains across southern Lebanon.

People like the 58-year-old Hejazi are the backbone of Hezbollah's power. He works for one of the group's social institutions. His son, Ali, 24, was killed fighting the Israelis. He has three more sons fighting for Hezbollah.

Hezbollah, or the Party of God, was founded in 1982 during Lebanon's civil war to confront Israel's invasion and champion Shiite rights. Its focus was on the battlefield and establishing an Iranian-style Islamic state in Lebanon.

Fighting Israel remains Hezbollah's priority. With the backing of Syria, which virtually controls Lebanon, the movement has about 3,000 fighters. It has killed more than 170 Israeli soldiers in south Lebanon since 1985, and repeated attacks by Israel have failed to stop the guerrillas.

But with Lebanon's civil war over for six years and an Islamic state seemingly a remote possibility _ many Muslims resist the idea, as does the Christian minority _ Hezbollah has turned to politics and social assistance.

The move is pragmatic: it's designed to expand the group's political power and, in the event of peace with Israel, ensure its survival.

The group wants to dismantle Lebanon's sectarian political system _ in which quotas dictate how many Christians and Muslims get government jobs _ but has not demanded Islamic laws such as banning alcohol and coed school classes.

``We have become convinced that the Lebanese people do not want an Islamic republic, and that this system cannot be enforced amid sectarian diversity,'' Hussein Hajj Hassan, a Hezbollah legislator, said.

Hezbollah runs its own radio and television stations. Its Parliament members have pushed for higher wages and more social benefits. The group provided 2.85 billion Lebanese pounds (dlrs 1.8 million) in grants to poor students last year, as well as 170 million pounds (dlrs 110,000) worth of books, stationery and clothing.

The movement also owns eight schools and runs stores in Shiite areas that sell food at discount prices. Its welfare system includes operating clinics in remote villages, supplying drinking water to Beirut's Shiite slums, repairing war-damaged houses and compensating the families of the 1,100 guerrillas killed fighting Israel since 1982.

Among those getting benefits are Wahab Hejazi's grandsons, Raed, 4, and Ali, 2 _ the children of his slain son.

Sipping black Arabic coffee, Ali's 25-year-old widow Nawal vowed to raise her children to become fighters for Hezbollah.

Her father-in-law nodded in agreement.

``Battling the Israeli enemy is an act of jihad (holy war) ordered by God,'' Wahab Hejazi said, a portrait of his dead son hanging on a wall behind him.

Despite Hezbollah's fight against Israel and its social programs, its influence remains limited. It controls only 11 seats in the 128-member Parliament, which is half-Muslim and half-Christian.

Hezbollah's effort to develop a gentler image also has not convinced everyone.

Western nations accuse Hezbollah of training foreign terrorists to further the schemes of Shiite-ruled Iran. The United States says Iran supplies Hezbollah with millions of dollars and hundreds of katyusha rockets to fire on Israel.

090833 jan 97

CAB1593-----
u ibx
int cai
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah's Other Face<
^New face for militants: pragmatism, providing services<
^AP Photo Available<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

HOUMIN FAWQAH, Lebanon (AP) _ In its battle to drive Israel from south Lebanon, Hezbollah's main weapons are the roadside bomb and assault rifle. But the guerrilla group has added medicines, school books and bargain-priced food to its arsenal.

Trying to broaden its political influence, the Iranian-backed Shiite group is providing social services to the poor _ its main constituents _ and standing up for them in the Lebanese Parliament.

The money goes mainly into Hezbollah strongholds, villages in southern and eastern Lebanon and the Beirut lums, where Hezbollah is thought of not as the terrorist group it is labeled by the West but as protector and rovider.

``While we have been neglected by the government, Hezbollah gives us financial aid to help us enroll our children in schools and get medical treatment,'' said Wa ab Hejazi in this front-line village 45 kilometers (25 miles) north of Israel's border.

People like the 58-year-old Hejazi are the backbone of Hezbollah's power. He works for one of the group's social institutions. His son, Ali, 24, was killed fighting the Israelis. He has three more sons fighting for Hezbollah.

The movement was founded in 1982 to confront the Israeli invaders and champion Shiite rights in Lebanon's 15-year civil war. Its focus was on the battlefield and establishing an Iranian-style Islamic state in Lebanon.

Fighting Israeli occupation remains Hezbollah's main priority. It has about 3,000 fighters and has killed 177 Israeli soldiers in the south since 1985. Israel's military might has failed to stop the guerrillas, whose suicide bombers and katyusha rocket attacks are admired by many in the Arab world.

But with Lebanon's civil war over for six years and an Islamic state seemingly a remote possibility _ it's resisted by many Muslims as well as minority Christians _ Hezbollah has turned to politics and social assistance.

The move is pragmatic: it's designed to expand the group's political power and, in the event of peace with Israel, ensure its future survival.

Hezbollah runs its own radio and television stations. It has opened links with old enemies like the right-wing Christian Phalange Party. While it was accused of backing the kidnapers of Western hostages in the 1980s, Hezbollah is now inviting foreign tourists to visit Lebanon.

In Parliament, Hezbollah has pushed for higher wages and more benefits for the poor. It advocates dismantling Lebanon's sectarian political system _ in which quotas dictate how many Christians and Muslims get government posts _ but it has not demanded Islamic laws such as banning alcohol or coed school classes.

Hezbollah legislator Hussein Hajj Hassan said the sectarian quotas are inherently unfair but that Hezbollah differentiates between ending that system and turning Lebanon into an Islamic state.

``We have become convinced that the Lebanese people do not want an Islamic republic and that this system cannot be enforced amid sectarian diversity,'' he said.

Hassan said Hezbollah provided 2.85 billion pounds (dlrs 1.8 million) in grants to thousands of poor students this year, as well as dlrs 110,000 worth of books, stationery and clothing.

The movement owns eight schools and runs discount stores in Shiite areas. Its welfare system includes clinics in remote villages, supplying drinking water to Beirut's Shiite slums, repairing war-damaged houses and compensating the families of the 1,100 guerrillas killed fighting Israel since 1982.

In Houmin Fawqah, among those getting benefits are Wahab Hejazi's grandsons, Raed, 4, and Ali, 2, the children of his slain son, Ali.

``Hezbollah will take care of my two children's schooling and other needs,'' Ali's 25-year-old widow Nawal said with a confident tone as Israeli sentries patrolled several hundred meters (yards) away.

Interrupting to sip black Arabic coffee, Mrs. Hejazi vowed to raise her children to become fighters for Hezbollah.

Her father-in-law nodded in agreement.

``Battling the Israeli enemy is an act of jihad (holy war) ordered by God,'' said Wahab Hejazi, a color portrait of his slain son hanging on a wall behind him.

Despite Hezbollah's fight against Israel and its social programs, its influence remains limited. The more established Amal movement is still the leader of Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, the largest religious sect with one-third of the population.

Hezbollah controls 11 seats in the 128-member Parliament, which is half-Muslim and half-Christian. Amal controls 22 seats, and Amal leader Nabih Berri is Parliament speaker, the highest state post reserved for Shiites.

Hezbollah's effort to develop a kinder, gentler image also has not convinced everyone.

Western nations accuse Hezbollah of training foreign terrorists to further the schemes of Shiite-ruled Iran. The United States says Iran supplies Hezbollah with millions of dollars and hundreds of katyusha rockets to fire on Israel.

Last September, Lebanon's mainstream Muslim and Christian politicians joined together to try to defeat Hezbollah in national elections. The opponents argued that Hezbollah was upsetting the country's delicate sectarian balance, and Hezbollah lost on seat in Parliament.

^hd-sfg-ggl<

Jan. 1st, 1997

RTT0780 3 i 428
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<

^Hezbollah leader says Israel may have targeted him <

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the guerrilla group Hezbollah said in remarks published Saturday that he may have been the target of an Israeli commando raid that never took place because the troops were killed in a crash.

Two Israeli helicopters, carrying 65 soldiers and eight airmen, collided while en route for military duty in Lebanon Tuesday. There were no survivors from the crash, which occurred just south of the international Israeli-Lebanese border.

``There is no doubt that the Israelis were planning an aggressive action against the resistance and Hezbollah,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, told Beirut's pro-Syrian newspaper Ash-Sharq.

``It is possible that the target could be human concentrations and Hezbollah commanders ... It is possible that the target could be Hezbollah's secretary-general personally.''

Nasrallah did not explain how he came to suspect that an Israeli attack on him or other Hezbollah targets was possible.

A Hezbollah spokesman contacted by The Associated Press confirmed his remarks to Ash-Sharq, but gave no further details.

Hezbollah has described the crash as ``divine justice'' and the Lebanese government said Israel should draw ``a lesson'' and end its occupation of a border enclave in southern Lebanon.

Another Beirut newspaper, Al-Liwa, reported Saturday that the Israelis aboard the two helicopters had planned to kidnap or assassinate Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of Hezbollah, and other commanders of the group.

Several Lebanese leaders have claimed that the Israelis were on their way to mount a commando raid in Lebanon, but Israel said they were on a rotation trip.

Israel had in the past targeted leaders of Hezbollah, which is launching a war of attrition to drive out Israeli troops and their allied militia from the border enclave held by the Jewish state since 1985 to protect its northern areas from guerrilla raids.

In August 1989, Israeli commandos kidnapped Hezbollah leader Sheik Abdul Karim Obeid from his home in south Lebanon. In 1992, Israeli jets killed Hezbollah's Secretary-General, Sheik Abbas Musawi, firing rockets at his car, also in south Lebanon.

In May 1994, Israeli commandos kidnapped Mustafa Dirani, head of the pro-Iranian Believers Resistance Group, from his home in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Obeid and Dirani are still held by the Israelis.

^HD-ZK-HH<

081346 feb 97

RTT5174 3 i 576
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah

^Nasrallah: Suicide operations will drive Israel from Lebanon<
^AP Photo BEI-101<
^By SAM F. GHATTAS=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah said Sunday he was confident Israel would be driven out of southern Lebanon because the guerrillas have a weapon the Israelis can't match _ suicide operations.

``The Israelis have very big military capabilities,'' said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Hezbollah militia. ``They are receiving military, technical, logistic and other support from the United States.''

But he added: ``We are superior in faith, will, courage and the love of martyrdom.''

Nasrallah made the comments in an interview with The Associated Press and AP-TV.

The Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God, has pledged to drive Israel out of the enclave it has occupied in southern Lebanon since 1985.

Even Israel's hard-line prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, has acknowledged Hezbollah's persistence. In a March 10 letter to Jordan's King Hussein, Netanyahu referred to the ``devastating mini-war taking a heavy toll in Lebanon.''

The Israelis have deployed fighter jets, helicopter gunships and other hi-tech weaponry. In addition to 1,500 Israeli troops and 2,500 Lebanese militia allies on the ground in the South, they send special commando units into the area against Hezbollah.

Hezbollah _ with an estimated 3,000 fighters _ has countered with suicide bombings, remote-controlled roadside bombs and direct attacks on Israeli forces. The guerrillas from time to time have fired rockets at northern Israel.

The guerrillas have killed more than 170 Israeli soldiers in the South since 1985, when Israel set up the ``security zone'' with the announced aim of protecting its northern communities from cross-border guerrilla raids.

``Do the Israelis have a great number of men who are ready for martyrdom operations to achieve the sacred goals they believe in?'' Nasrallah asked rhetorically.

``We have,'' he added. ``And this is the prime advantage which makes us optimistic and gives us great hope of victory in the future.''

The interview was conducted amid tight security in Shiite-populated south Beirut, a Hezbollah stronghold.

Nearly one year ago, Israel launched an aerial, naval and artillery offensive against Hezbollah, including air raids on south Beirut, but failed to tame the group. More than 175 people were killed, most of them Lebanese civilians, in the April 11-27 blitz.

Nasrallah said Sunday he could not rule out another such Israeli campaign, which he suggested would be an effort by Netanyahu to draw attention away from the hard-line policy his government has taken toward the Palestinians.

``There are clear fears that Netanyahu might find himself concerned about trying to escape forward, and the arena would be Lebanon,'' Nasrallah said.

Netanyahu left Sunday for the United States for talks with President Clinton. The Americans are trying to restart Israel-Palestinian negotiations, which broke down after Israel's decision last month to build 6,500 homes for Jews in Arab east Jerusalem.

Israel has long accused Iran of providing Hezbollah with weapons. But Nasrallah denied this, saying Iran's aid was only humanitarian.

``We can fulfill our needs through purchases and the (international arms) market,'' he said.

^sfg-eap<

062008 apr 97

CAE0890------
r i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 03-21 0529
intj 888 nat brt cai 02
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^With BC-Mideast-UN<
^Guerrillas say they won't patrol border if Israelis withdraw<
^By SAM F. GHATTAS=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Hezbollah's leader said Saturday his guerrillas will not take over security along the Lebanese-Israeli border if Israel's army leaves the occupation zone it started carving into Lebanon 20 years ago.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah's comments were the closest he has come to addressing Israeli fears that an Israeli troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon would bring the guerrilla threat closer to the border.

His remarks coincided with increasing talk of an Israeli withdrawal, including U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's discussions with Lebanese leaders in Beirut.

``It is a matter for the (Lebanese) authorities whether to send their forces, be it the army or the Internal Security Forces. They are welcome,'' Nasrallah said in an interview with the Voice of Lebanon radio station.

``Hezbollah will not exercise any security authority or role of this kind in the areas that the occupiers leave,'' the Shiite Muslim clergyman said.

Hezbollah, or Party of God, has been fighting 1,500 Israeli soldiers and 2,500 allied militiamen of the South Lebanon Army in the enclave.

Israel first invaded Lebanon in 1978 to push back Palestinian guerrillas, then returned in 1982 to again rout the Palestinians, only to bog down in battles with Lebanese guerrillas _ primarily the Iranian-backed Hezbollah. Israel's self-described ``security zone'' in southern Lebanon expanded to nearly one-tenth of the country.

Hezbollah had long refused to say what it would do if the Israelis leave Lebanon. But recently the guerrilla group said it would not oppose a Lebanese army deployment in the border zone if the Israelis leave.

Also on Saturday, a Sudanese newspaper quoted Nasrallah as saying his fighters would not become a ``border guard'' for Israel.

``No one in Lebanon is concerned with giving guarantees to the enemy, because no one in Lebanon will accept that the Lebanese people or the Lebanese army be a guard for the borders of an aggressor state,'' Sudan's Al-Anbaa newspaper quoted Nasrallah as saying.

The Hezbollah leader also said Israel's army must leave Lebanon without prior conditions, according to Al-Anbaa.

Israel recently offered a conditional withdrawal from Lebanon. It demanded the disarmament of Hezbollah and security arrangements to protect northern Israeli towns from cross-border attacks.

Israel also seeks guarantees of protection for Lebanese militiamen who have been armed and trained by Israel in the border zone.

Lebanon and Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, have rejected the Israeli offer. They demanded an unconditional Israeli withdrawal.

In the interview with Voice of Lebanon, Nasrallah repeated an offer of amnesty to Israeli-allied militiamen who surrender before an Israeli withdrawal takes place.

Beirut has been prosecuting members of the SLA militia as traitors. In 1996, a military court sentenced SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahd to death in absentia for treason.

^sfg/emf<

AP-LD-03-21-98 1404GMT<

CAT2380-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 02-17 0297
cai intj 888 02 nat brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Hezbollah denies reports of arrests in Jordan<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ A Lebanese guerrilla group on Tuesday denied reports that its members had been arrested in Jordan on charges of planning to carry out attacks.

``This is not true,'' a spokesman for the Iranian-backed Hezbollah said in Beirut.

The report, which appeared Monday in a Jordanian newspaper, said Jordanian security officials had arrested armed members of an Iranian-backed Muslim group, affiliated with Hezbollah, who were plotting to attack American and Israeli targets in Jordan.

Al-Bilad weekly said the militants had infiltrated into Jordan from Syria. But it did not say when they were arrested or how many people were involved.

On Tuesday, the London-based Asharq al-Awsat newspaper carried a similar report.

``Hezbollah does not need to send any group to Jordan,'' said the spokesman, who requested anonymity.

``I think that the war theater in the (Israeli) occupied zone (in south Lebanon) is sufficient. We do not need to carry out attacks outside the occupied territory,'' he added.

Hezbollah, or the Party of God, has been fighting to drive Israeli troops and their local militia allies from an Israeli-occupied zone in southern Lebanon. Israel has occupied the zone since 1985 to protect its northern territory from cross-border attack by guerrillas.

The spokesman said the report was an attempt by the Jordanian government to justify internal security measures and a ban on demonstrations protesting against a threatened U.S. attack on Iraq.

The Jordanian government has banned pro-Iraqi rallies, saying it had information that ``infiltrators and agents'' would try to use them to stir up public opinion.

^zk/sfg-jbm<

AP-LD-02-17-98 1745GMT<

```
CAG8900-----
               u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 1stLd   02-01 0068
intj 888 nat cai 02 brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st Ld
^Tense standoff as Muslim militants bury leader<
^With AP Photos BEI101-102<
^Eds: ADDS photo numbers.<
^By ZEINA KARAM=
^Associated Press Writer=
          BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) _ Angry Shiite Muslim mourners shouted
anti-Hezbollah slogans Sunday as they buried one of their leaders
killed in a weekend battle.
          Sheik Khodor Tlaiss, 2nd graf<
^hd-eap<
          AP-LD-02-01-98 1547GMT<
```

CAG8895-----
u ibx
inti 888 nat cai 02 brt
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Tense standoff as Muslim militants bury leader<
^With AP Photo<
^By ZEINA KARAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) Angry Shiite Muslim mourners shouted anti-Hezbollah slogans Sunday as they buried one of their leaders killed in a weekend battle.

Sheik Khodor Tlaiss was killed along with four other supporters of radical Shiite cleric Sobhi Tufeili in battles with the Lebanese army in the eastern ancient city of Baalbek.

Three soldiers and a bystander also died and dozens were wounded in the fighting, which erupted Friday evening and ended Saturday.

About 3,000 Shiites, including 50 clergymen, took part in Tlaiss' funeral amid tight army security.

His body was driven in an ambulance from Baalbek _ where many shops remained closed _ to his native town of Brital for burial. A long convoy of cars followed.

Supporters shouted slogans denouncing Hezbollah's moderate leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah. They also shouted against Hezbollah's patron, Iran, and Lebanese leaders.

Troops searched vehicles outside Brital and banned journalists from entering the town to cover the funeral.

Tlaiss, Tufeili's top aide, was expelled from Hezbollah a week ago. He was the group's representative in Parliament from 1992 to 1996.

A dispute between Tufeili and Hezbollah's leadership intensified Friday when Tufeili's followers occupied a Hezbollah-run Shiite seminary in Baalbek, 85 kilometers (53 miles) northeast of the capital Beirut.

The army intervened after efforts failed to end the dispute peacefully.

In the ensuing battles, the army drove Tufeili out of his Baalbek stronghold and confined him to his nearby hometown of Brital, where he has holed up with supporters for a last stand.

The confrontation has split the 1.2 million Shiite community, Lebanon's largest sect, as well as the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, which is leading a guerrilla war against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon.

Hezbollah, or the Party of God, has stayed out of the fighting. On Saturday called for Brital to be spared, indicating that it did not support a military showdown in the town, which has a population of about 15,000.

Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of Shiite militants in Lebanon, urged restraint and warned of dire consequences at a time when Israel continues to occupy parts of southern Lebanon. Fadlallah has maintained good relations with the Hezbollah leadership and Tufeili.

Tufeili was the secretary-general of Hezbollah in the mid-1980s, when Shiite extremists linked to the group kidnapped Westerners in Lebanon.

Tufeili has for months staged a civil disobedience campaign against the government and demanded that Lebanese authorities improve the lives of people in the impoverished region.

But his frequent challenges to the law have irritated even those who backed his cause and prompted Hezbollah to expel him from the group on Jan. 24.

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, in the first government reaction to the fighting, said that authorities have been more than patient with Tufeili's rebellion.

''He (Tufeili) has been breaking the law for some time. ... He is 100 percent responsible for what happened,'' Hariri told reporters during a visit to Paris. His comments were carried Sunday on Lebanese television.

The Military Prosecutor's office on Saturday issued a warrant for Tufeili's arrest for ''forming an armed gang and threatening national security.''

Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon which maintains a large military garrison in the Bekaa, has remained neutral.

A senior Iranian official was expected in Syria and Lebanon this week. Although the visit by Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri, speaker of the Iranian Parliament, was scheduled before the fighting erupted, the conflagration was certain to be a subject of his discussions with Syrian and Lebanese leaders.

^sfg-zk-hd/sf<
Feb. 1, 1998

CAL9460-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 01-24 0349
cai brt intj 888 nat 02
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Hezbollah dismisses former top leader who backed anti-government protests<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah said Saturday it has expelled a former leader of the group who has been leading anti-government demonstrations to protest economic hardships.

Hezbollah accused Sheik Sobhi Tufeili, its former secretary-general, of stirring up strife and harming the guerrilla group's fight against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon.

Tufeili, a radical Shiite cleric, launched a movement last year to press the government to improve conditions in the impoverished Bekaa region of eastern Lebanon.

He has led thousands of supporters in anti-government demonstrations, demanding better living standards.

``Since Sheik Tufeili launched his own movement ... several months ago, he has, in practice, decided to leave our march,'' a Hezbollah statement said.

Tufeili said he had no knowledge of the statement.

``I will not comment on this statement which, for me, has no significance,'' he said. ``My march will go on.''

Tufeili's complaints _ especially that high prices are making even necessities unaffordable _ echo those of other Lebanese, who say that living conditions are deteriorating despite the government's postwar reconstruction program.

Tufeili, who is from the Bekaa, enjoys wide popularity in the region. He was the leader of Hezbollah when Shiite extremists kidnapped Western hostages in Lebanon in the mid-1980s.

The current Hezbollah leadership has opposed Tufeili's latest actions as futile. Hezbollah said it also opposed Tufeili's call for civil disobedience, such as withholding taxes and utility payments to force the government to improve economic conditions.

The Hezbollah statement also criticized Tufeili's insistence on staging his own rally in Baalbek on Friday in the same place where Hezbollah holds a rally every year to protest Israel's seizure of east Jerusalem in 1967.

``Sheik Tufeili is no longer a member of our continuing march,'' the statement said.

^hd-lm<

AP-LD-01-24-98 1929GMT<

CAV2886-----
u i BC-Lebanon-HezbollahAgen 12-29 0526
cai brt intj 888 02 nat jer
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah Agent
^Hezbollah boasts it had an agent in Israel's Mossad<
^AP Photo BEI-101<
^By HUSSEIN DAKROUB=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Hezbollah guerrilla group said Monday it infiltrated Israel's Mossad intelligence agency by operating a double agent who fed Israel disinformation about the group for more than a year.

At a news conference in south Beirut, the Iranian-backed group presented a bearded man named Mousa Zein, 29, who told reporters he worked with Mossad under the alias Albert Pylos, and returned to Lebanon eight months ago.

The Israeli army denied knowledge of any such infiltration. If true, it would be another blow to the famed Israeli agency whose agents botched a mission to assassinate a Palestinian militant in Jordan in September.

Nayef Koraim, Hezbollah's chief spokesman, told the news conference that Zein ``successfully carried out wide disinformation operations for some time.''

He hailed the infiltration as ``one of Hezbollah's most important security victories against the Zionist enemy.''

Zein said he was captured by Israeli troops and their local allied militiamen on the edge of the Israeli-occupied border enclave in southern Lebanon in July 1992 and spent the next three years in an Israeli prison.

Under torture and psychological pressure, Zein said he gave the Israelis ``some minor information'' that would not have harmed Hezbollah interests.

Later, he said, he agreed to work for Mossad as an agent. He said he was given training, an Israeli passport and sent to Southeast Asia and Europe ``under the supervision of the Israeli Embassy and two Mossad officers.''

But he claimed he remained in contact with Hezbollah during his travels, and assured the leadership that he was still faithful. They, in turn, passed on misleading information to be fed to the Israelis.

Zein said he also misled the Israelis into believing that he had been a bodyguard of Hezbollah chief Abbas Musawi, who was killed in an Israeli helicopter gunship attack in southern Lebanon in February 1992.

Zein offered no specific examples of the information he had passed on, or give details of his work. But Koraim, the Hezbollah spokesman, said Zein was providing the Israelis with information on alleged Hezbollah operatives in Europe.

Zein claimed that he met with some Hezbollah members in Europe and they helped bring him back to Beirut eight months ago.

Even then, he claimed, he continued telephone contacts with Israeli officers under Hezbollah supervision. Koraim said Hezbollah decided to reveal his true identity now because his mission had served its purpose.

He said Zein's operations were not linked with the arrest of a German man in Israel last month as a suspected Hezbollah agent who planned a suicide attack in the Jewish state.

The German man in Israeli custody, Stephan Josef Smyrek, 26, was indicted in court last week on charges of membership in a terrorist organization and conspiring to assist Israel's enemies.

Hezbollah has denied that Smyrek had worked for the group.

^hd-sfg/vj<
AP-LD-12-29-97 1436GMT<

RTT6087 3 i 497
^BC-Israel-Hezbollah<

^Detained German's mother: He was a `lonely dreamer'<

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) _ The mother of a 26-year-old German accused of planning a suicide bombing in Israel said in an interview published Sunday that her son is ``a lonely dreamer'' who became despondent after his Egyptian girlfriend dumped him.

``This boy was always getting into trouble,'' a tearful Karen Wicks said of Stephan Josef Smyrek, held in Israel since Nov. 28. ``I'm a regular woman... and suddenly I'm the mother of a suicide terrorist,'' she told the Yediot Ahronot daily.

On Friday Yediot reported that Smyrek belonged to a unit of would-be assailants recruited in Europe by the Islamic militant group Hezbollah. The unit was established two years ago to recruit people with a European appearance for attacks in Israel, it said.

The Lebanese group has denied recruiting Smyrek, however.

Smyrek was born a Catholic in Detmold in northwest Germany; his parents divorced in 1978 and his mother remarried in England, where Smyrek attended a boarding school a few years later.

He served four years in the German army, then worked in a pizzeria run by ethnic Turks, where he became acquainted with Islam and converted, his mother said.

Mrs. Wicks, who still lives in England, visited Smyrek's studio apartment in Braunschweig, Germany last year. She described her surprise at his living conditions _ ``a spartan room with a bed, a little TV, a few clothes and a prayer rug.''

He asked his mother to call him ``Abdel Kareem'' but she refused, saying: ``You'll always be Stephan to me.''

She recalled he ``seemed very strange,'' discussing Jewish and Christian conspiracies against Islam and advising her to read the Koran, the Muslim holy book, ``to understand what he means.''

Mrs. Wicks said her son dated a girl of Egyptian descent, but they broke up recently at the insistence of her father, who disapproved of him because he was not Egyptian, Mrs. Wicks said.

After that he called her up and announced: ``Allah has shown me the way. Now I know what to do.''

``If I had realized what he was thinking of, that he joined Hezbollah, I would have done everything to stop him,'' Mrs. Wicks said.

According to the indictment handed in Tel Aviv Thursday, Smyrek traveled to Lebanon in August to train in the use of light arms, explosives and other weapons. Three months later he came to Israel via Amsterdam, equipped with a video camera, a map of Israel and dlrs 4,000 from Hezbollah.

Israel was reportedly tipped off by Interpol, and Smyrek was arrested and charged with plotting a suicide attack.

Defense attorney Daniel Assan said the case was weak and that Smyrek was held in solitary confinement for three weeks without being allowed to contact a lawyer or the German Embassy.

Mrs. Wicks said she hoped the Israeli courts will be lenient.

``He's just a child who was brainwashed,'' she said.

^dp<

281758 dec 97

RTT0477 3 i 471
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<

^Hezbollah militants mark Jerusalem Day with calls for war<
^AP Photos BEI-101-4<
^By ZEINA KARAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ Muslim guerrillas waging a war of attrition against Israel in southern Lebanon marked ``Jerusalem Day'' with military parades and calls for a holy war to regain the city.

Thousands of followers of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group marched in strongholds in south Beirut, eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and southern Lebanon.

Iran's late spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, decreed in 1981 that Muslims should hold a day of solidarity to protest Israel's 1967 seizure of the Arab sector of Jerusalem, which is regarded as holy by Muslims, Christians and Jews.

It is observed annually on the last Friday of Islam's fasting month of Ramadan.

In Tehran, hundreds of thousands of Iranians rallied to mark the occasion.

In Beirut, children clad in military camouflage carried toy guns and bearded guerrillas on cross-country motorcycles saluted the crowd. A squad of suicide bombers with explosives strapped to their chests marched over a U.S. and an Israeli flag painted on a street in a Shiite district of south Beirut.

Apparently heeding a government ban on the public display of weapons outside of southern Lebanon, the guerrillas showed off makeshift rocket launchers made from cardboard. An armored vehicle made from wood boards with an Israeli star of David splashed with blood was on display.

The crowd chanted ``Death to Israel'' and ``Death to America.''

Guerrillas gloated over the deaths of 73 Israeli soldiers after two military helicopters crashed en route to Lebanon.

``The fate of Israeli leaders will be similar to the fate of their soldiers who were killed while on their way to commit more crimes against our people in Lebanon,'' said Ramadan Abdullah, secretary-general of the Muslim militant group Islamic Jihad in Palestine.

The accident has sparked calls in Israel to reconsider its 12-year-old occupation of a border enclave in southern Lebanon.

The air accident ``will increase feelings of despair and demoralization (among Israelis) and will lead them once again to question the price of their troops' presence in south Lebanon,'' Hezbollah's secretary-general, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, said at a rally.

More than 200 Israeli soldiers have been killed in southern Lebanon since Israel established the border enclave in 1985 to curb cross-border guerrilla raids.

The Hezbollah leader urged Palestinian Muslims to rise up.

``We call on our people in Palestine to escalate their Jihad (holy war) and resume the intefadeh (uprising), Nasrallah said. ``Jerusalem is ours and shall once again be ours as an eternal Muslim Arab city.''

^zk-sfg-lm

071818 feb 97

RTT2071 4 i 364
^BC-Canada-Terrorism-Suspect, 1st Ld-Writethru,0370<

^Report: Hezbollah active in Canada<
^Eds: UPDATES with Hezbollah denying guerrilla network in Canada, grafs 6-7<

TORONTO (AP) _ Canada's intelligence agency said an arm of Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed guerrilla organization that operates in Lebanon, has established an infrastructure in Canada.

The allegation was contained in a 300-page document released Friday by the Federal Court of Canada in connection with the arrest of a suspect in a 1996 terrorist bombing that killed 19 U.S. airmen in Saudi Arabia.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service alleges Hani Al-Sayegh, arrested this month in Ottawa, is a member of Saudi Hezbollah, a branch of the main Hezbollah organization in Lebanon.

``Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada that can assist and support terrorists seeking a safe haven in North America,'' the agency said in its report.

``Hezbollah members in Canada receive and comply with direction from the Hezbollah leadership hierarchy in Lebanon.''

In Beirut, Hezbollah denied that it had established a guerrilla infrastructure in Canada, saying the allegations were aimed at discrediting the guerrilla group's military resistance to Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon.

An unidentified Hezbollah spokesman said in a statement carried by the state-run National News Agency that the Canadian intelligence report wanted to shift the focus from ``Zionist terrorism'' and Israel's main backer, the United States.

Al-Sayegh has denied involvement in the June 1996 bombing in Dharan, Saudi Arabia. The blast killed 19 U.S. servicemen and hurt about 400 others at an apartment building beside a U.S. barracks.

Al-Sayegh said he was in Syria at the time of the bombing.

But CSIS said Al-Sayegh drove a car that signaled a truck loaded with explosives to approach the grounds. It said al-Sayegh arrived in Ottawa in August 1996, after making stops in Kuwait, Italy and the United States.

Al-Sayegh, who has claimed refugee status, will have a chance to respond to the charges at an April 28 hearing, after which he could be deported to Saudi Arabia.

292200 mar 97

RTT2036 4 i 259
^BC-Lebanon-Canada-Hezbollah<

^With BC-Canada-Terrorism Suspect<
^Hezbollah denies setting up guerrilla network in Canada<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah group in Lebanon denied Saturday Canadian charges that it had established a guerrilla infrastructure in Canada.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service said in a document released Friday that a suspect under arrest in Canada for last June's truck bombing in Saudi Arabia is a member of Saudi Hezbollah, which it said is a branch of the main Hezbollah group in Lebanon.

The bombing in Khobar, in eastern Saudi Arabia, killed 19 U.S. airmen.

Hani Al-Sayegh, a Shiite Muslim Saudi Arabian, was arrested in Ottawa this month.

``Hezbollah has established an infrastructure in Canada that can assist and support terrorists seeking a safe haven in North America,'' said the CSIS document.

``Hezbollah members in Canada receive and comply with direction from the Hezbollah leadership hierarchy in Lebanon,'' the report added.

But a Hezbollah spokesman in Beirut said the allegations were aimed at discrediting the guerrilla group's military resistance to Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon.

In a statement carried by the state-run National News Agency, the unidentified Hezbollah spokesman said the CSIS report wanted to shift the focus from ``Zionist terrorism'' and Israel's main backer, the United States.

Hezbollah is waging a guerrilla war against Israeli troops who occupy a border strip in southern Lebanon.
^zk-sf<

292104 mar 97

RTT9491 4 i 191 HEZBOLLAH
^BC-US-Russia-Iran,0194<

^Report: Russia arms merchants selling missiles to Iran<

WASHINGTON (AP) _ Iran has been buying advanced Russian air-defense systems, including a type of hand-held anti-aircraft missile that Tehran intends to provide to Hezbollah terrorists, The Washington Times reported Wednesday.

Citing unidentified Pentagon intelligence officials, the Times said missile sales talks took place in Moscow in February and March between Iranian intelligence and Russian arms brokers who offered S-300 series anti-aircraft missiles for sale at discount prices.

The report said the talks included the proposed sale of up to 500 advanced ``Igla'' anti-aircraft missiles worth more than dlrs 50,000 each.

It said other proposed deals, to be made outside the official Russian government arms-sales agency, would involve sales of T-72 tanks and Mi-17 helicopters.

The Times said the transactions would violate a pledge Russian President Boris Yeltsin made during the 1994 summit with President Clinton to block all new conventional arms sales to Iran.

Russia previously has sold submarines to Iran.

161112 apr 97

RTT3900 4 i 241
^BC-France-Hezbollah

^Report: Hezbollah met French envoy on Algerian insurgency<

PARIS (AP) _ A French newsmagazine reported Saturday that a French envoy met with the head of the Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon and got help in trying to avoid attacks by Algerian militants.

The unidentified ``French emissary'' met with Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary general of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, the conservative magazine Le Point said in the brief report.

Without giving its sources, it quoted Nasrallah as saying: ``We had messages passed to the Algerian Armed Islamic Group asking it not to attack French interests.''

The Algerian group, known by its French initials GIA, has claimed responsibility for bombings in France as well as attacks in Algeria, a former French colony led by a military-backed government.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said he had ``no information'' on the report or on whether French officials had met with Hezbollah officials in the past.

In Beirut, Hezbollah officials were not immediately available to comment on the report.

If confirmed, the report would raise questions about what links France may have with the Hezbollah and what ties the Hezbollah may have with the GIA.

Algeria's government, struggling with a 5-year-old insurgency that has left more than 60,000 dead, has alleged the violence is supported from abroad.

(cb)

151754 feb 97

CAG704 ----
u ibx
inti 888 nat cai 02 ier
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah
^Hezbollah leader warns Israel against hitting infrastructure<
^Eds: Note language in 12th graf.<
^AP Photo BEI-101<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) The leader of an Iranian-backed guerrilla group on Sunday warned Israel that his fighters will retaliate if the Jewish state attacks Lebanon's utilities.

``I want to tell this enemy ... that bombing (Lebanon's) infrastructure will be met with retaliation,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, the secretary-general of Hezbollah, told a rally. ``We will not keep quiet about the destruction of our country.''

Israel jets hit an electric pylon in Lebanon in August, announcing that the move was ``punishment'' because the Lebanese army had intervened in fighting in southern Lebanon.

Israel had bombed an electrical station and water plant during it's ``Grapes of Wrath'' campaign in Lebanon in April 1996.

Such attacks are especially damaging because Lebanon is still rebuilding from its 1975-90 civil war, which devastated the country.

Nasrallah compared the Lebanese guerrillas to Palestinian fighters and said: ``I want to tell them that we and our brothers in Palestine are also capable of bringing their entity to a stage where there is no tourism, no economy and no public utilities.''

Nasrallah spoke at a rally held Sunday in Beirut's southern suburbs to commemorate the death of his eldest son Hadi, 18, a week earlier. Hadi Nasrallah and two comrades were killed in a clash with Israeli troops in south Lebanon.

Tens of thousands of supporters who showed up for the occasion frequently interrupted his speech with cries of ``Allahu Akbar,'' or ``God is Great,'' and ``Death to Israel.''

Nasrallah said while Israel owned ``warplanes that can invade our skies, we own martyrs that can invade all their markets, towns and settlements.''

Nasrallah also attacked the recent visit by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to the region, charging that it was meant to further Israel's goals.

Nasrallah said Albright's characterization of Hamas and Islamic Jihad militant groups active in the Palestinian territories as terrorist groups was a compliment.

``Such a testimony from this Jewish old hag is a tribute for Hamas and Islamic Jihad,'' he said.

Hezbollah has led the campaign to try to drive Israel out of the self-proclaimed ``security zone'' it set up in southern Lebanon in 1985 to protect from cross-border attacks on its northern settlements.
^zk-rk-egp<

Sept 21, 97

^TT5538------

u ibx

inti 888 nat cai 02

^BC-Lebanon-US-Hezbollah(

^Guerrilla group warns Washington against taking action(

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) Hezbollah, designated by the United States as one of 30 terrorist organizations, warned Washington Thursday not to take action against its guerrillas.

The Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim group also said American backing of Israeli actions against Lebanon was itself a terrorist action.

On Wednesday, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright designated Hezbollah and 29 other foreign organizations as terrorist groups taking steps to block fund raising and punish their U.S. backers.

In addition, members and representatives of these organizations will be ineligible for U.S. visas.

The list included 13 Islamic organizations in the Middle East along with two Israeli groups.

``We have absolutely no doubt of the American administration's sponsorship of organized international terrorism,'' said a Hezbollah statement read out on the group's Al-Manar television station in Beirut.

``Therefore, we warn of any measures resulting from this list. The Americans should not fall into the trap of the terrorist Zionist (Israeli) instigation because it will have dire consequences,'' it added.

Hezbollah was believed to be the umbrella organization for militants who attacked and kidnapped Americans and other Westerners in the 1980s during the chaotic days of Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war. More than 260 Americans were killed in those attacks.

However, Hezbollah, or Party of God, has since 1990 been concentrating on fighting Israeli forces and their Lebanese allies who occupy a border strip in southern Lebanon.

Albright's decision was in response to a 1996 law designed to stop fund raising in the United States by and on behalf of organizations that engage in or sponsor terrorist acts.

``Real terrorism is embodied today in Israel, which breaks international law and norms,'' the Hezbollah statement said.

It said the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and attacks on civilians amounted to terrorism.

``Isn't the American administration's apathy toward the terrorist practices of the Zionist entity (Israel) a terrorist act?'' the statement asked.

^sfp-sf(

Oct. 09, 1997

CAV1874-----
U I BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah 10-16 0318
cai brt intj 888 02 nat
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Hezbollah offers to bring Arab governments, Islamic foes together<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The leader of the Iranian-backed militant group Hezbollah says he wants to mediate between Arab governments and their Islamic foes in order to close ranks against Israel.

``We think that the region faces the threat of Israeli terrorism ... and so the whole (Arab) nation is invited to put forward a joint strategy,'' Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said in an interview published Thursday by the London-based newspaper, Asharq Al-Awsat.

``We call on Islamic movements in all Arab countries ... to reconcile with their governments and to create an atmosphere of national unity,'' he told the the Arabic-language daily.

Nasrallah added that he was arranging meetings between ``some leaders of Islamic movements and Arab governments'' for the purpose. He did not elaborate.

Islamic extremists are waging a violent campaign in Algeria and Egypt to enforce strict religion-based rule. The Palestinian Authority also has had confrontations with the militant Hamas movement.

Asharq Al-Awsat said the interview with Nasrallah was conducted in Tehran where he met with Iranian leaders. Hezbollah guerrillas belong to Islam's Shiite sect, which is dominant in Iran. Most Muslims in the Arab world belong to the mainstream Sunni sect.

Nasrallah said his group is devising a formula that would enable Lebanese from other sects to join it in fighting Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon.

``We are ready to welcome and cooperate with any person or party ... regardless of their religious, sectarian or political affiliations,'' he said.

Hezbollah, or Party of God, has been leading the fight in south Lebanon to oust Israeli troops who have occupied a border strip since 1985 to prevent cross-border guerrilla raids on its northern towns.

^zk-sfg/vj<

AP-LD-10-16-97 1102GMT<

[illegible] Hezbullah
Guerrillas-Israel

CAT0473-----
u i BC-Lebanon-Israel 4thLd-Writethru 09-13 0622
intj 888 nat cai brt jer 02
^BC-Lebanon-Israel, 4th Ld-Writethru<
^Hezbollah chief's son killed in fighting; body with Israel<
^Eds: UPDATES to combine 3rd Ld and 2nd Ld, repeats to some
^points<
^AP Photo BEI-101-106<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ A son of the leader of Lebanon's largest guerrilla group has been killed fighting Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, and the Israelis have his body, the group said Saturday.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, secretary-general of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, said he was proud that his eldest son, Hadi, 18, had been killed in Friday's clash with Israeli troops.

``I thank God and praise Him for His ultimate grace and kindness by choosing a martyr from my family,'' he told a rally of 2,000 Hezbollah supporters Saturday night in south Beirut.

Hezbollah is the largest and the most powerful of the guerrilla groups trying to oust Israeli troops and allied militiamen from the zone they occupy in southern Lebanon.

Earlier Saturday, the Hezbollah office in Beirut said that one of its four guerrillas listed as missing after Friday's clash on the edge of the Israeli-occupied zone had returned to base.

The militant had reported that two of his comrades, including Hadi Nasrallah, had been killed and a third was missing.

Hadi had been identified from video tape of the bodies lying in a hospital in Marjayoun, the main town in the Israeli-occupied zone, Hezbollah said.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli army spokesman declined to comment on the report.

Israeli and Hezbollah leaders have both indicated they are interested in exchanging the body parts of an Israeli soldier with the Hezbollah guerrillas held in Israeli custody. An official of the International Committee of the Red Cross has begun talking to the parties about such a swap.

The body parts belong to an Israeli soldier who was among the 12 killed in a botched commando raid on Sept. 5 in southern Lebanon.

Nasrallah told the rally he would share with the families of other dead guerrillas the misfortune of not being able to bury his son.

The remark implied that in any exchange with Israel, he would not give preference to his son's remains.

Friday's clashes ended with an unusual Israeli air strike on a Lebanese army position. The raid killed six Lebanese soldiers and a civilian woman, and wounded six other Lebanese troops.

Israel said it attacked the Lebanese military post in the village of Arab Salim, about 1 mile (1.6 kilometers) from the occupied zone, because its troops had participated in the earlier gun battle between Israeli forces and Hezbollah guerrillas.

Israel has no interest in attacking the Lebanese army, the Israeli army spokesman said, but ``every time the Lebanese army is involved in battle, it turns itself into a target.''

On Saturday, Lebanese army commander Gen. Emile Lahoud toured the stricken post and inspected the armored personnel carriers destroyed by Israeli missiles.

The Israelis had ``taken revenge for the frustration and disarray in their ranks after the recent heavy losses,'' Lahoud said, referring to the failed commando raid.

The Lebanese army has largely stayed out of the conflict between Israel and the guerrillas. But it has recently begun defending its area of operations and firing anti-aircraft guns at intruding Israeli military aircraft.

An army statement said Lahoud praised his men for standing up to the Israelis despite the imbalance between the two armies.

Israel has 177,000 regular soldiers and another 400,000 reservists while the lightly equipped Lebanese army numbers 50,000.

Israel set up the occupied zone in 1985 to protect its northern territory from guerrilla attack.

^sfg/hd-vj/jbm<

AP-LD-09-13-97 2156GMT<

RR0098

Hezbollah

U I NCE0479 INTJ NAT NIC NICD 888U
#BC-LEBANON-POSTER VIOLENCE
#TWO KILLED, FOUR WOUNDED IN ROW OVER KHOMEINI POSTERS

TYRE, LEBANON (AP) - A DENTIST, ANGERED BY POSTERS OF THE LATE AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI OUTSIDE HIS CLINIC, SHOT DEAD A MILITIAMAN AND WOUNDED FOUR OTHERS BEFORE HE WAS KILLED WEDNESDAY, SECURITY SOURCES SAID.

THE POSTERS WERE PUT UP TUESDAY BY THE PRO-IRANIAN GROUP HEZBOLLAH IN THE VILLAGE OF QANA, 11 MILES (17 KILOMETERS) NORTHEAST OF TYRE, TO COMMEMORATE THE DEATH OF THE FOUNDER OF THE IRANIAN REVOLUTION ON JUNE 3, 1989.

DR. MOHAMMED DELBANI TORE THEM OFF, AND LEFT THEM LYING OUTSIDE THE GROUND-FLOOR CLINIC, ABOVE WHICH HE LIVES WITH HIS FAMILY.

HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IS IRAN'S MAIN ALLY IN LEBANON.

PARTY ACTIVISTS FOUND THE SHREDS JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT (2100 GMT TUESDAY) AND WENT UP TO DELBANI'S HOME FOR AN EXPLANATION, SAID THE SOURCES, WHO INSISTED ON ANONYMITY.

THE DENTIST, A SHIITE MUSLIM LIKE THE MILITIAMEN, OPENED THE DOOR CLUTCHING A MACHINE GUN. HE TOLD THE 10 UNARMED MEN THAT HE DID NOT WANT SUCH POSTERS ON HIS WALLS.

IN AN ENSUING ARGUMENT, DELBANI, 50, OPENED FIRE, KILLING A 23-YEAR-OLD MEMBER OF THE GROUP AND WOUNDING FOUR OTHERS.

HEZBOLLAH MILITIAMEN RINGED THE HOUSE, DEMANDING THAT DELBANI SURRENDER. HIS WIFE AND THREE DAUGHTERS FLED THE HOUSE TO A NEARBY OFFICE OF HEZBOLLAH'S RIVAL SHIITE PARTY, AMAL.

WHEN HE REFUSED TO SURRENDER, THE MILITIAMEN FIRED 13 ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADES INTO THE HOUSE, KILLING THE DENTIST AND DESTROYING THE HOUSE, THE SOURCES SAID.

THE INCIDENT UNDERSCORED THE GROWING RESENTMENT OF HEZBOLLAH AMONG THE PREDOMINANTLY SHIITE POPULATION IN SOUTH LEBANON.

THE PRO-IRANIAN GUNMEN LEAD A GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST ISRAELI TROOPS OCCUPYING A BORDER ENCLAVE IN SOUTH LEBANON. THEIR ATTACKS DRAW HARSH REPRISALS FROM THE ISRAELIS AND THEIR SOUTH LEBANON ARMY MILITIA ALLIES.

0744G 03 06 92

NC0252-----
& IPX 26-05 00239
INFO NAT NIC NICO EURO JER BRT
BC-LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH
HEZBOLLAH LEADER VOWS RETALIATION<
WITH LEBANON-ISRAEL<
AP PHOTO BEI-1 AVAILABLE<
BY RIMA SALAMEH=
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) _ THE LEADER OF THE MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALIST HEZBOLLAH, SHEIK HASSAN NASRALLAH, ON TUESDAY VOWED TO RETALIATE FOR A WAVE OF ISRAELI AIR RAIDS.

MINUTES AFTER NASRALLAH ENDED HIS NEWS CONFERENCE AT 11:15 A.M. (0815 GMT), ISRAELI WARPLANES RAIDED HEZBOLLAH BASES IN SOUTH LEBANON.

HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT UNLESS ISRAEL ``CEASES ITS BARBARIC ATTACKS AGAINST CIVILIANS, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WE SHALL DEAL A SEVERE RETALIATION. WE SHALL NOT STAND HANDCUFFED.''

NASRALLAH ACCUSED THE UNITED STATES OF BACKING ISRAEL'S ``BLOODY TERRORISM WITH ALL ITS GREAT POTENTIALS AND ITS SOPHISTICATED DESTRUCTIVE WEAPONS.''

HE SAID A CALL BY THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT LAST WEEK TO DISARM THE ANTI-ISRAEL GUERRILLAS OPERATING IN LEBANON ``AIMS AT PREPARING THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE ZIONIST ENEMY TO EXCEED ITSELF IN ITS CRIMES AND ESCALATE ITS BARBARIC ATTACKS AGAINST OUR OPPRESSED PEOPLE.''

``THIS CALL BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT SATAN (AMERICA) IS VERY RUDE. IT IS THE RIGHT OF EVERY PEOPLE WHOSE LAND IS OCCUPIED TO POSSESS WEAPONS,'' HE SAID ANGRILY.

NASRALLAH PREDICTED MORE ISRAELI AIR RAIDS AND ARTILLERY ATTACKS ON SOUTH LEBANON, BUT SAID HE THOUGHT GROUND INCURSIONS WERE UNLIKELY.

``THE ENEMY SEEMS TO HAVE CHOSEN THE OPTION OF ARTILLERY AND AERIAL BOMBARDMENT TO AVOID HUMAN LOSSES THAT COULD OCCUR IN GROUND THRUSTS,'' HE TOLD THE NEWS CONFERENCE AT A HEZBOLLAH OFFICE IN BEIRUT'S SOUTHERN SLUM OF BIR AL-ABED.

``POSSIBLE LOSSES DURING LAND INCURSIONS ALSO WOULD REFLECT NEGATIVELY ON THE ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN OF (ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK) SHAMIR'S GOVERNMENT,'' HE SAID.

NASRALLAH ALSO CHARGED THAT ISRAEL WAS PLANNING TO ASSASSINATE HEZBOLLAH LEADERS.

``ASSASSINATING HEZBOLLAH LEADERS AND OFFICIALS ALSO COULD BE AMONG ISRAEL'S AIMS,'' SAID THE SOFT-SPOKEN NASRALLAH, WEARING A BLACK TURBAN.

HE SUCCEEDED SHEIK ABBAS MUSAWI, WHO WAS ASSASSINATED BY ISRAEL FEB. 16 ALONG WITH HIS WIFE AND YOUNGEST SON.

(RS-EN-RDA)

26/05/92 11:32

PR0223

J I AN0678 INTL WAT CCN

LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH

PRO-IRANIANS DISPLAY EQUIPMENT BELONGING TO DEAD ISRAELI

LASERPHOTO AVAILABLE

BY DIANA ABU-NASR

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS DISPLAYED BLOODSTAINED EQUIPMENT TUESDAY WHICH THEY SAID WAS ABANDONED BY ISRAELI TROOPS AFTER A DEADLY BATTLE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON LAST WEEK.

THE PARTY'S LEADER, ABBAS MUSAWI, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN SOUTH BEIRUT THAT HEZBOLLAH WOULD CONTINUE FIGHTING ISRAEL "SO LONG AS BLOOD IS COURSING IN OUR VEINS."

THE BATTLE NEAR THE VILLAGE OF ARAB SALAM ON JULY 17 WAS THE MOST SERIOUS INVOLVING ISRAELI SOLDIERS IN SOUTH LEBANON THIS YEAR. THREE ISRAELI SOLDIERS WERE KILLED, INCLUDING TWO OFFICERS, AND FOUR WERE WOUNDED, ACCORDING TO THE ISRAELI ARMY.

THE COMMANDER OF THE ISRAELI-BACKED SOUTH LEBANON ARMY MILITIA, ANTOINE LAHD, MET TUESDAY WITH ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHE ARENS IN MARJAYOUN, A CHRISTIAN TOWN INSIDE THE BORDER ENCLAVE THAT ISRAEL MAINTAINS IN SOUTH LEBANON.

LAHD SAID HEZBOLLAH HAS "STEPPED UP ITS TERRORIST ATTACKS" AGAINST THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED SECTOR DESPITE THE DEPLOYMENT OF LEBANESE TROOPS IN THE REGION.

ARENS SAID, "THE FUTURE OF THE ZONE DEPENDS ON THE ABILITY OF THE LEBANESE ARMY TO CONTROL AND DISARM A.

THE MILITIAS THAT CARRY OUT ACTS OF SABOTAGE IN SOUTH LEBANON."

ISRAEL ESTABLISHED THE 440-SQUARE-MILE (1,140-SQUARE-KILOMETER) ZONE IN 1985. ABOUT 3,000 SLA MILITIAMEN AND 1,000 ISRAELI TROOPS PATROL THE BUFFER TO LIMIT GUERRILLA INFILTRATIONS AND ATTACKS ON NORTHERN ISRAEL.

THE LEBANESE ARMY ON JULY 2 SENT 10,000 SOLDIERS TO SPREAD GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO THE SOUTH AFTER 16 YEARS OF CIVIL WAR.

[illegible] EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE [illegible] WILL REMAIN IN THE SECURITY ZONE AS LONG AS THEIR IS A DANGER.

THE LEBANESE ARMY PLANS TO MOVE AGAINST THE HEZBOLLAH BASES IN SEPTEMBER, TO REMOVE THEIR HEAVY WEAPONS.

BUT HEZBOLLAH HAS SAID IT WOULD NOT SURRENDER ITS WEAPONS AS PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION GUERRILLAS DID AFTER FOUR DAYS OF FIGHTING WITH THE ADVANCING LEBANESE ARMY.

MUSAWI SAID, "THE RESISTANCE WILL NOT STOP SO LONG AS BLOOD IS

[illegible] WE WILL REMAIN IN RESISTANCE UNTIL THE

[illegible] SHIITE

[illegible]

[illegible] -- [illegible], TWO GERMANS AND AN ITALIAN.

[illegible] 1982.

HEZBOLLAH AND ISRAEL HAVE STATED THEY ARE WILLING [illegible]

[illegible] THAT COULD LEAD TO FREEE

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] A STOKEN

[illegible] DOCUMENTS IN HEBREW, RADIO EQUIPMENT, BINOCULAR [illegible]

GUN ROUNDS, [illegible] SMOKE BOMBS [illegible] WITH

HEBREW [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] 2043 [illegible]

[illegible]

1502IN 23 08 91

[illegible]

U I NCB052 INTJ NNT 000

@LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, INSERT

@BEIRUT - TO INCLUDE REPORT OF BOMB FOUND IN MOSQUE INSERT AFTER 12TH GRAF: OUR LAND.''

MUSAWI WORE A BLACK TURBAN IN HONOR OF ASHOURA, THE MAIN SHIITE HOLY DAY CELEBRATED SUNDAY AND MONDAY IN COMMEMORATION OF THE DEATH IN THE 7TH CENTURY OF HUSSEIN, A DESCENDANT OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD.

RESIDENTS OF THE SOUTHERN LEBANON VILLAGE OF SIDDIQINE REPORTED THEY HAD FOUND A 25-KILOGRAM (55-POUND) BOMB PLANTED BEHIND THE PULPIT OF THE MOSQUE AND HOOKED TO A GENERATOR BY A WIRE. THE VILLAGERS SAID THEY DEFUSED THE BOMB MONDAY, BEFORE THE MOSQUE SERVICES, AND TOOK IT TO A NEARBY LEBANESE ARMY BARRACKS. NEITHER POLICE NOR THE ARMY CONFIRMED THE REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE 50 MILES (80 KILOMETERS) SOUTH OF BEIRUT.

HEZBOLLAH IS: 13TH GRAF

1639G 23 07 91

00

RR10

ULI

B7038 INTL WRT 0601

ULEBANON-(E23)?-4, 1ST ADD

BEIRUT: BADLY DAMAGED.

A MASKED HEZBOLLAH FIGHTER SAID THE EQUIPMENT WAS SEIZED TWO HOURS AFTER THE JULY 17 BATTLE. A 14-MINUTE VIDEO SHOWED THE ARTICLES STREWN AMONG BURNED BRUSHWOOD.

THE GUERRILLA POINTED TO BLOOD STREAMING DOWN SOME JAGGED ROCKS. ''THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE LEADER OF THE UNIT,'' HE SAID, BUT DID NOT EXPLAIN HOW HE DETERMINED THAT.

THE ISRAELI ARMY HAS IDENTIFIED ITS SOLDIERS AS MEMBERS OF A SPECIAL UNIT WHO SOUGHT OUT HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS. ISRAEL IDENTIFIED THE DEAD AS MAJ. YOSEF GVILLI, THE COMMANDER OF THE UNIT; CAPT. OREN HELTZER, AND SGT. YEHUDA KURKAS.

THE MASKED GUERRILLA, DRESSED IN CAMOUFLAGE FATIGUES, SAID THAT, BASED ON THE ARTICLES THAT WERE SEIZED, 15 ISRAELIS WERE WOUNDED OR KILLED.

BUT HE ALSO SAID MOST OF THE ARTICLES BELONGED TO THE COMMANDER OF THE UNIT, WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS THE CAPTAIN.

1504G 23 07 95

AA

RR0329
U I NCB064 INTJ NAT 888
‡LEBANON-NASRALLAH PROFILE
‡NEW HEZBOLLAH LEADER A PRAGMATIST, DISCIPLE OF IRAN'S REVOLUTION
‡BY MOHAMMED SALAM=
‡ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

4

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE NEW LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH, SHEIK HASSAN NASRALLAH, IS STAUNCHLY ANTI-ISRAELI. BUT LIKE HIS SLAIN PREDECESSOR HE IS REGARDED A PRAGMATIST COMPARED TO THE FIREBRAND SHIITE MUSLIM MILITANTS IN THE PRO-IRANIAN GROUP.

NASRALLAH, 38, WHO HEADED THE PARTY'S CENTRAL MILITARY COMMAND, REPLACES ABBAS MUSAWI, 39, THE PARTY'S SECRETARY-GENERAL WHO WAS KILLED IN AN ISRAELI HELICOPTER RAID SUNDAY.

HIS QUICK ELECTION UNDERSCORED IRANIAN PRESIDENT HASHEMI RAFSANJANI'S EAGERNESS TO MAINTAIN HIS INFLUENCE ON THE PARTY AND AVOID A POWER STRUGGLE WITH EXTREMISTS WHO MAINTAIN ALLEGIANCE TO RAFSANJANI'S DOMESTIC ADVERSARIES.

NASRALLAH, A NATIVE OF THE SOUTHERN VILLAGE OF BAZOURIYEH, WAS INSTALLED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE AT A MEETING OF THE PARTY'S RULING 12-MAN CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL, A HEZBOLLAH STATEMENT SAID. IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF HE WILL RETAIN HIS POST AS MILITARY COMMANDER.

HE IS THE FIRST NATIVE OF SOUTH LEBANON TO BE ELECTED TO THE TOP HEZBOLLAH POST SINCE THE GROUP'S INCEPTION AS AN UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT IN 1982.

HIS TWO PREDECESSORS, MUSAWI AND SHEIK SUBHI TUFEILI, HAILED FROM THE BEKAA REGION, WHERE TOUGH SHIITE TRIBES THAT HAD LONG DEFIED THE AUTHORITY OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN BEIRUT, ARE CONCENTRATED.

MUSAWI REPLACED TUFEILI ON MAY 20, 1991, IN AN INTERNAL COUP THAT SILENCED RADICAL VOICES DEMANDING THE ESTABLISH OF AN IRAN-STYLE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN LEBANON.

UNDER MUSAWI, THE PARTY SHOWED MORE FLEXIBILITY IN COOPERATING WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S DRIVE FOR CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM COEXISTENCE AFTER THE END OF THE 1975-1990 CIVIL WAR. NASRALLAH IS EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THAT POLICY.

BUT LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR, HE IS COMMITTED TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL AND THE ANTI-WEST TEACHINGS OF AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI, THE LATE FOUNDER OF THE IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTION.

IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE AFTER ELECTION TUESDAY, NASRALLAH EULOGIZED MUSAWI BEFORE A CROWD OF 40,000 MOURNERS, AND SAID:

''AS WE BID FAREWELL TO OUR GREAT MARTYR, WE PLEDGE TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS AND SHALL NOT BUDGE EVEN IF THE MOST HORRENDOUS CRIMES ARE COMMITTED AGAINST US.''

ADDED NASRALLAH: ''AMERICA WILL REMAIN THE DREADFUL ENEMY AND ISRAEL A CANCEROUS GROWTH THAT SHOULD BE UPROOTED.''

NASRALLAH IS AN AUTHORITY ON THE SHIITE FAITH, TO WHICH BELONG ABOUT 1.2 MILLION OF LEBANON'S 4 MILLION POPULATION.

HE STUDIED THEOLOGY FIRST IN NAJAF, IN IRAQ, AND LATER IN QOM, THE SEAT OF IRAN'S RELIGIOUS HIERARCHY, GRADUATING IN 1978. HE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN IN NAJAF IN THE MID-1970S, WHEN KHOMEINI LIVED AND TAUGHT THEOLOGY THERE.

NASRALLAH BEARS A STRIKING PHYSICAL RESEMBLANCE TO MUSAWI. LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR, HE IS BESPECTACLED AND SPORTS A BUSHY BLACK BEARD. HE ALSO WEARS A BLACK TURBAN, DENOTING THAT HE IS A ''SAYYED,'' OR A DESCENDANT OF ISLAMIC FOUNDER, PROPHET MOHAMMED.

‡MORE
2050G 18 02 92

RR0330

U I NCB066 INTJ NAT 888

LEBANON-NASRALLAH PROFILE, 1ST ADD

BEIRUT: PROPHET MOHAMMED

NASRALLAH WAS AMONG THE FOUNDERS OF HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD. THE PARTY WAS FORMED BY IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS WHO CAME TO LEBANON IN 1982 TO HELP FIGHT AGAINST THE ISRAELI INVASION AND STAYED ON TO RECRUIT YOUNG SHIITES AND CREATE A POWER BASE FOR THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION.

HEZBOLLAH TOOK A HIGHER PROFILE IN 1985, WHEN IT APPOINTED AN OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN, IBRAHIM AL-AMIN.

THAT YEAR, NASRALLAH BECAME THE SPIRITUAL MENTOR OF HEZBOLLAH'S TRAINING CAMP IN THE BEKAA.

IN 1987, NASRALLAH WAS APPOINTED HEAD OF HEZBOLLAH'S CENTRAL IDEOLOGY DEPARTMENT, A PROMOTION THAT PUT HIM IN CHARGE OF THE PARTY'S OVERALL INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM.

IN 1989, WHEN TUFEILI'S EXTREMISTS DOMINATED THE PARTY, NASRALLAH LED AN OPPOSITION MOVEMENT WITHIN THE HEZBOLLAH, PROTESTING ITS WAR FOR SUPREMACY WITH AMAL, THE MORE SECULAR MILITANT GROUP IN THE SHIITE COMMUNITY.

DURING THE STRUGGLE, NASRALLAH SUSPENDED HIS PARTISAN ACTIVITY AND RETURNED TO IRAN TO PURSUE HIGHER THEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN QOM.

NASRALLAH RETURNED IN 1991, AFTER MUSAWI'S ELECTION, AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE PARTY'S MILITARY COMMAND. AMONG HIS TASKS WAS TO STOP THE FEUD WITH AMAL AND BRING THE MILITANT SHIITES TO FOCUS INSTEAD ON THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL.

HE IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN.

2053G 18 02 92

[illegible]

U I MCB140 INTL NAT 898 JER

ABC-LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH

APRX-IRAN MOURNERS RENEW VOWS TO ATTACK ISRAEL

^AP PHOTO BEI-1 AVAILABLE

NABI SHEET, LEBANON (AP) - THOUSANDS OF SHIITE MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS ATTENDED A RALLY SUNDAY TO COMMEMORATE THEIR LEADER, SHEIK ABBAS MUSAWI, WHO WAS KILLED IN AN ISRAELI AIR RAID ALMOST TWO MONTHS AGO.

SPEAKERS RENEWED PLEDGES TO AVENGE THE ATTACK IN SOUTH LEBANON ON FEB.16 IN WHICH MUSAWI'S WIFE AND 5-YEAR-OLD SON ALSO WERE KILLED.

IRANIAN PRESIDENT HASHEMI RAFSANJANI'S BROTHER, MAHMOUD, AND IRAN'S AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA, HASSAN AL-AKHTARI, ATTENDED THE RALLY ORGANIZED BY THE PRO-TEHRAN HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD.

THE EVENT WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR MARCH 26 TO MARK 40 DAYS SINCE THE MUSAWIS WERE KILLED, BUT IT WAS POSTPONED AMID FEARS ISRAEL WOULD HIT THE GATHERING IN RETALIATION FOR THE BOMBING OF ITS EMBASSY IN ARGENTINA ON MARCH 17, IN WHICH 28 PEOPLE, INCLUDING FOUR ISRAELIS, PERISHED.

A HEZBOLLAH-AFFILIATED GROUP, ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EMBASSY ATTACK, SAYING IT WAS CARRIED OUT BY A SUICIDE BOMBER SEEKING REVENGE FOR MUSAWI'S KILLING.

ISRAEL HAS SAID IT WILL RETALIATE AT A TIME AND PLACE OF ITS OWN CHOOSING.

THE CROWD THAT GATHERED IN NABI SHEET, MUSAWI'S BURIAL PLACE IN SYRIAN-POLICED EASTERN LEBANON, WAS ESTIMATED AT 20,000, MOST OF THEM YOUNG, BEARDED MILITANTS TOTTING RIFLES AND PISTOLS.

SENIOR OFFICIALS OF HEZBOLLAH, WHO HAD GONE UNDERGROUND SINCE THE BOMBING IN BUENOS AIRES, SHOWED UP FOR THE RALLY.

DOZENS OF MILITIAMEN LINED THE MAIN ROAD LEADING INTO THE VILLAGE, AND TWO ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES MOUNTED ON TRUCKS PATROLLED THE VILLAGE.

HEZBOLLAH'S SPIRITUAL GUIDE, SHEIK MOHAMMED HUSSEIN FADLALLAH, TOLD THE CROWD THAT JIHAD, OR HOLY WAR, AGAINST ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE IN LEBANON AND ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD.

``THOSE WHO KILLED HIM (MUSAWI) WILL FIND OUT WHEREVER THEY GO THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE WHO WILL TAKE REVENGE FOR HIS KILLING,'' THE BLACK-TURBANED SAID.

SHEIK HASSAN NASRALLAH, WHO SUCCEEDED MUSAWI AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF HEZBOLLAH, URGED ALL ARAB AND MUSLIM NATIONS TO RALLY BEHIND HIS PARTY IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL.

``RESISTANCE AGAINST ISRAEL IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE ARAB AND MUSLIM COUNTRIES,'' HE SAID.

17098 12 04 92

RR0252
U I NCB0935 INTJ 888U NAT NIC
#BC-LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, 1ST LD-WRITETHRU
#HEZBOLLAH TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENT, SAYS BOUDIAF'S MURDER NO SURPRISE
#EDS: AMS. ADDS BACKGROUND
#BY MOHAMMED SALAM=
#ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE IRANIAN-BACKED SHIITE MUSLIM HEZBOLLAH ANNOUNCED TUESDAY IT WILL PARTICIPATE IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS EXPECTED LATER THIS YEAR, HOPING TO PRESSURE THE GOVERNMENT INTO SUPPORTING A GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST ISRAEL.

HASSAN NASRALLAH, LEADER OF THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT WHOSE NAME MEANS PARTY OF GOD, SAID THAT ANY EFFORT BY THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO BLOCK HEZBOLLAH AS THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT DID WITH ITS FUNDAMENTALISTS WOULD BE RESISTED.

HE TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE AT HEZBOLLAH'S SOUTH BEIRUT HEADQUARTERS THAT THE PARTY WHICH BATTLED THE GOVERNMENT IN THE 1975-90 CIVIL WAR NOW WANTS ''TO PLAY A ROLE IN THE LAW-MAKING PROCESS.''

HEZBOLLAH HAS NEVER RUN IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN LEBANON BECAUSE THE LAST POLL WAS IN 1972. NO ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE BECAUSE OF THE WAR.

HEZBOLLAH WAS FOUNDED IN 1982 WITH IRANIAN HELP. IT ADVOCATES AN IRANIAN-STYLE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN LEBANON.

ITS DECISION TO TAKE PART IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS HAS BEEN ON THE CARDS FOR SOME TIME AS LEBANON MOVES TOWARD RESTORING LEGITIMATE POLITICAL LIFE FOLLOWING THE END OF THE WAR IN WHICH SOME 150,000 PEOPLE PERISHED.

IT ALSO REFLECTS IRAN'S SHIFT TOWARD INTERNATIONAL RESPECTABILITY TO END ITS REVOLUTIONARY ISOLATION.

HEZBOLLAH WAS CONSIDERED THE PARENT OF THE SHIITE MILITANTS WHO HELD SCORES OF FOREIGNERS HOSTAGE BETWEEN 1984 AND THIS YEAR. AT IRAN'S URGING, THE LAST WESTERNERS HELD HAVE ALL BEEN FREED IN RECENT MONTHS.

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE HEZBOLLAH'S DECISION FROM OTHER LEBANESE PARTIES.

HOWEVER, RIGHT-WING MARINITE CATHOLICS, THEIR TRADITIONAL POLITICAL DOMINATION ENDED UNDER AN ARAB LEAGUE-BROKERED PEACE TREATY, ARE APPREHENSIVE OF THE ISLAMISTS' GROWING INFLUENCE.

THE CHRISTIANS FEAR A FUNDAMENTALIST RESURGENCE IN LEBANON, AS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN OTHER ARAB STATES, WHICH THEY BELIEVE COULD WRECK THE PROSPECT OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IN POST-WAR LEBANON.

FUNDAMENTALISTS HAVE MADE MAJOR INROADS IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN ALGERIA AND JORDAN IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. THEY ALSO

''ARMED RESISTANCE REMAINS OUR MAIN CHOICE AS LONG AS THE OCCUPATION OF SOUTH LEBANON PERSISTS,'' NASRALLAH SAID.

HEZBOLLAH SPEARHEADS A GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST ISRAEL'S SELF-PROCLAIMED ''SECURITY ZONE'' IN THE SOUTH.

IT ACCUSES LEBANON'S SYRIAN-BACKED GOVERNMENT OF FAILING TO SHOULDER ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN LIBERATING THE OCCUPIED SECTOR.

PRESIDENT ELIAS HRAWI'S ADMINISTRATION FAVORS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY, THROUGH THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS, TO PRESSURE ISRAEL INTO WITHDRAWING. ISRAEL REFUSES TO PULL OUT.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES ON TUESDAY STARTED DEBATING A DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW TO ELECT A NEW LEGISLATURE TO REPLACE THE PRESENT 108-SEAT HOUSE WITH A 128-SEAT BODY.

THE ELECTIONS WERE CALLED FOR IN THE 1989 ARAB LEAGUE PEACE PLAN, WHICH PROVIDED FOR POWER TO BE DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY AMONG MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS.

CHRISTIANS WERE CONSIDERED THE MAJORITY WHEN LEBANON GAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM FRANCE IN 1943. BUT MUSLIMS ARE NOW CONSIDERED TO BE AT LEAST A 55 PERCENT MAJORITY.

ASKED WHETHER HE EXPECTED THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO CRACK DOWN ON HEZBOLLAH IF IT WON A MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT, NASRALLAH SAID WITH A SMILE: ''LEBANON IS NOT ALGERIA.''

HE WAS REFERRING TO THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S CRACKDOWN ON THAT COUNTRY'S ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS AFTER THEY MADE MAJOR GAINS IN ELECTIONS LAST JANUARY.

THE MILITARY-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT IN ALGIERS CANCELLED A SECOND ROUND OF ELECTIONS WHICH THE FUNDAMENTALISTS WERE EXPECTED TO WIN AND TAKE OVER POWER IN THE NORTH AFRICAN ARAB STATE.

NASRALLAH SAID ALGERIAN PRESIDENT MOHAMMED BOUDIAF WAS ASSASSINATED MONDAY BECAUSE HE ''TRIED TO ABOLISH THE CHOICE OF THE ALGERIAN PEOPLE.

''BOUDIAF CANCELED THE DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS AND THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE. ANY RULER WHO TRIES TO DO WHAT BOUDIAF DID WOULD FACE THE SAME DESTINY,'' NASRALLAH SAID.

HE SAID BOUDIAF'S ASSASSINATION WAS NO SURPRISE.

ALGERIANS WERE ''NOT EXPECTED TO KISS THE HAND THAT STRIPPED THEM OF THEIR ELECTION VICTORY,'' HE SAID.

#NS-FM-RK-EB

1733G 30 06 92

RR0187

U I NCD1680 INTJ NAT NIC NICD 888U PAR

$BC-LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH

$HEZBOLLAH TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENT, SAYS BOUDIAF'S MURDER NO SURPRISE

$BY MOHAMMED SALAM=

$ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE IRANIAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH SAID TUESDAY IT WILL BE RUNNING CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENT, HOPING TO LEAD THE GOVERNMENT INTO TAKING PART IN GUERRILLA ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL IN SOUTH LEBANON.

HASSAN NASRALLAH, LEADER OF THE FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE MUSLIM GROUP, ALSO SAID MONDAY'S ASSASSINATION OF ALGERIAN HEAD OF STATE MOHAMMED BOUDIAF WAS NO SURPRISE.

ALGERIANS WERE ''NOT EXPECTED TO KISS THE HAND THAT STRIPPED THEM OF THEIR ELECTION VICTORY,'' HE SAID.

HE WAS REFERRING TO THE MILITARY-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT'S CANCELLATION OF A SECOND ROUND OF ELECTIONS THAT ALGERIAN FUNDAMENTALISTS WERE EXPECTED TO WIN.

ADDRESSING A PACKED NEWS CONFERENCE AT HEZBOLLAH HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTH BEIRUT SLUM OF BIR ABED, NASRALLAH DECLARED: ''WE HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE PART IN THE FORTHCOMING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.''

RUNNING FOR THE ELECTIONS, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JULY OR AUGUST, WOULD END A DECADE-LONG BOYCOTT BY HEZBOLLAH OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, WHOSE OVERTHROW IT HAS CALLED FOR REPEATEDLY IN ORDER TO CREATE AN ISLAMIC REPUBLIC MODELED ON IRAN.

ASKED WHY HEZBOLLAH DECIDED TO RUN, NASRALLAH SAID: ''TAKING PART IN PARLIAMENT IS DIFFERENT THAN PARTICIPATING IN A GOVERNMENT. PARLIAMENTS ISSUE NEW LAWS, WE WANT TO PLAY A ROLE IN SUCH A PROCESS.''

THE BEARDED, BLACK-TURBANED NASRALLAH SAID HEZBOLLAH REPRESENTATIVES WOULD RUN FOR ELECTIONS TO ''BENEFIT FROM ALL AVAILABLE MEANS TO PUSH LEBANON TOWARD ADOPTING THE RESISTANCE (GUERRILLA ATTACKS) OPTION.''

''ARMED RESISTANCE REMAINS OUR MAIN CHOICE AS LONG AS THE (ISRAELI) OCCUPATION OF SOUTH LEBANON PERSISTED,'' NASRALLAH TOLD REPORTERS.

ISRAEL HAS OCCUPIED A 440-SQUARE-MILE (1,100-SQUARE-KILOMETER) STRIP IN SOUTH LEBANON SINCE 1985 AND REFERS TO IT AS THE ''SECURITY ZONE.'' IT USES THE STRIP AS A BUFFER AGAINST CROSS-BORDER GUERRILLA INFILTRATIONS INTO ITS NORTHERN SETTLEMENTS.

HEZBOLLAH LEADS A GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST THE SECURITY ZONE AND ACCUSES THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT OF FAILING TO SHOULDER ITS RESPONSIBILITY IN LIBERATING THE OCCUPIED SECTOR.

PRESIDENT ELIAS HRAWI'S SYRIAN-BACKED GOVERNMENT FAVORS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY, THROUGH THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS, TO PRESSURE ISRAEL INTO WITHDRAWING FROM THE SECURITY ZONE.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES ON TUESDAY STARTED DEBATING A DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW TO ELECT A NEW LEGISLATURE TO REPLACE THE PRESENT 108-SEAT HOUSE WITH A 128-SEAT BODY.

THE ELECTIONS WERE CALLED FOR IN A 1989 ARAB LEAGUE-BROKERED PEACE PLAN THAT ENDED THE NEARLY 16-YEAR-OLD CIVIL WAR IN OCTOBER 1990. THE PLAN CALLED FOR POWER TO BE DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY AMONG MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS.

ASKED WHETHER HE EXPECTED THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO CRACK DOWN ON HEZBOLLAH IF IT WON A MAJORITY IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, NASRALLAH SAID WITH A SMILE: ''LEBANON IS NOT ALGERIA.''

HE SAID BOUDIAF WAS ASSASSINATED BECAUSE HE ''TRIED TO ABOLISH THE CHOICE OF THE ALGERIAN PEOPLE.''

''BOUDIAF CANCELED THE DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS AND THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE. ANY RULER WHO TRIES TO DO WHAT BOUDIAF DID WOULD FACE THE SAME DESTINY,'' NASRALLAH SAID.

$(MS-WDN)

1318G 30 06 92

30

BTC0033 dabunasr -----
U Ibx msg&&bt 06-03 0334
brt
msg&& bt
^BC-Israel-Syria
^Defense Minister Reportedly Urges Syria to Reign In Hezbollah<

JERUSALEM (AP) _ Defense Minister Moshe Arens said Tuesday that Israel sought Syria's help in curbing guerrilla attacks by pro-Iranian guerrillas in south Lebanon, Israel radio reported.

Arens spoke to a closed-door session of Parliament's Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee.

The remarks came as Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati visited Beirut for Talks about Israel's latest clashes with the Hezbollah, a Shiite Muslim guerrilla movement.

Syria's President Hafez Assad was also quoted Tuesday as accusing Israel of threatening war by its repeated bombardment of Lebanese targets in the past two weeks.

Arens said the United States was involved in diplomatic efforts to curb the Hezbollah guerrillas, the radio said.

He also said Israel was ``acting to make clear to Syria that we will take action to cease Hezbollah activities in south Lebanon, but prefer that Damascus do it,'' the report added.

Arens' spokesman Danny Naveh had no immediate comment.

No Israeli officials responded directly to Assad's warnings in an interview with British Broadcasting Corp. radio that Israel was a country ``that threatens to launch war,'' and that Syria ``will defend herself'' if attacked.

Spokesmen for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister David Levy said they had no comment.

The Israeli military strikes in Lebanon have come in response to a Hezbollah guerrilla offensive against pro-Israeli militiamen launched in mid-May.

In six Israeli air raids since May 21, 25 people have been killed and 63 wounded, according to Lebanese police count.

Syrian gunners have fired at some Israeli aircraft in Lebanon according to Lebanese reports. Israeli officials have responded with statements stressing they sought to avoid confrontation with Syria, Israel's biggest Arab enemy.

^

AP--06-03-92 0547GMT<
2

RTT3250 3 III 00759 ------
AP-^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah<
^Army Takes Over Barracks Hezbollah Used As Hostage Jail<
^By MOHAMMED SALAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) _ The Army on Thursday regained its barracks in eastern Lebanon which Iranian Revolutionary Guards and Shiite Muslim militants had occupied for 10 years and often used as a jail for Western hostages.

The handover was smooth, except for a brief verbal argument that developed when a cameraman for a television station run by the Muslim zealots was roughed up by the army.

A 25-vehicle convoy of armored personnel carriers, trucks and jeeps rolled into the Sheik Abdallah Barracks, 30 minutes after its occupiers peacefully marched out.

Col. Michel Rahbani, the military intelligence chief, led the troops into the complex, which the 3,000 Guards seized in 1982 when they came to Lebanon to help fight the Israeli invasion.

The barracks first served as a base where the guards trained young Shiite recruits. When Hezbollah, or Party of God, was born in 1983 it became the joint headquarters for the guards and the militiamen.

Several of the Western hostages were held in the barracks at various times after the kidnappings started in 1985. Hezbollah served as an umbrella for the kidnappers who freed the last Westerners, two Germans, in June.

It also was the main supply and communications base for guerrillas engaged in a guerrilla warfare against Israeli forces in south Lebanon.

The takeover was in line with a Cabinet decision to regain control of government buildings Christian and Muslim irregulars had seized during the 1975-90 civil war.

It is more of a morale boost for the army than an effective blow to the Iranian and Lebanese militants, who moved their equipment and personnel to other locations in the region.

The loss of the barracks was not expected to hinder Hezbollah's activities in the eastern Bekaa region, which is largely under the control of 40,000 Syrians troops sent to Lebanon in 1976 to help snuff out the civil war.

Although most other militias have disbanded since the end of the war, Hezbollah has vowed not to lay down arms until the last Israeli soldier leave the so-called security zone in south Lebanon.

An army officer said weapons, ammunitions and communication equipments have been moved to a Shiite theology college about 800 meters (yards) to the west of the barracks.

The officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Awaited Imam College, which has four underground floors, was turned into Hezbollah's new supply base.

A joint operations room and communications center was set up in Baalbek's Khawam hotel, he said.

The tiled-roof, three-story hotel, deserted by its owners during the civil war, is about one mile (1,600 meters) east of Sheik Abdallah barracks.

Political headquarters were moved to the village of Brital, 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of Baalbek, the officer added.

Hezbollah and the Iranian guards pulled most of their fighters out of the Sheik Abdallah barracks Wednesday night.

They left a token force of about 40 fighters in civilian clothes, armed with assault rifles and pistols.

The bearded men wearing their trademark black headbands, lowered the black-and-green Iranian flag and Hezbollah's emblem a clenched fist and an automatic rifle _ then marched out of the 200,000-square-meter (240,000-square-yard) complex.

But an argument ensued when a cameraman for Hezbollah's al-Manar television station slipped into the complex, was roughed up by the army and thrown out.

The militants outside began shouting Islam's battle cry of Allahu Akbar, or God if Great, and some cocked their rifles.

But Military Police personnel quieted them down, after talking calmly to the older ones in the crowd.

A Hezbollah militiaman, identified as the barracks' former commander, later addressed the crowd. He said: ``The handover of the barracks is an Islamic and nationalist decision designed to encourage the Lebanese Army to fight Israel.'' No one would provide the man's name.

Hezbollah's militants responded with shouts of ``death to Israel'' and ``death to America.''

Troops last week seized the seaside command headquarters of the Lebanese Forces, the Christians' main militia, in east Beirut.

The also pushed into Druse warlord Walid Jumblatt's power base in the Chouf mountains southeast of the capital and took control of two historic sites and a national library.

An irate Jumblatt announced Thursday he was suspending his participation in the Cabinet to protest the army move.

301904 Jul GMT

BTB0146 msalam 000--
U Ibx msg&&Nicosia 07-30 0854
nic brt
msg&& Nicosia
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah, 1st LD-Writethru (Tatro askt)<
^Army Takes Over Hezbollah's Main Base<
^EDS:Incorporates Information on New HQ for Iranian Rev. Guards, Impact on anti-israel activity, AMs<
^By MOHAMMED SALAM=
^Associated Press Writer=

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP) - Government troops on Thursday took over the headquarters of the Iranian revolutionary guards and allied militiamen of Hezbollah, or Party of God, in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Non acts of violence were reported in the 30-minute hand over during which a 25-vehicle convoy of armored personnel carriers, trucks and jeeps rolled into the Sheik Abdallah Barracks on a hill overlooking the center of the ancient town of Baalbek at 1 P.M. (1000 GMT).

Director of military intelligence Col. Michel Rahbani commanded the push which ended a 10-year occupation of the barracks by Hezbollah and an estimated 3,000-man contingent of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards.

The barracks was also used by the Iranian guards and the fundamentalist Shiite Muslim Hezbollah as the main supply and communications base for anti-Israel fundamentalist guerrillas.

An army officer said Hezbollah guerrillas and the Revolutionary guards had moved all their weapons, ammunition and communications equipment to a Shiite theology college about 800 meters (yards) west of the Sheik Abdallah barracks in Baalbek.

The officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Awaited Imam (CQ) theology college, which has four underground floors, is Hezbollah's new supply base.

He said the Iranian guards and Hezbollah also established a joint operations room and communications center in Baalbek's Khawam hotel. The deserted brick-roofed, three-story hotel is one mile (1.6 kilometers) east of the Sheik Abdallah barracks.

The two allied forces established a new command headquarters in the shiite village of Brital, hometown of former Hezbollah leader Sheik Sobhi Tofeili, 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of Baalbek in the Bekaa valley, the officer added.

The move, he said, was not expected to have any direct effect on hezbollah's guerrilla attacks against israel's self-proclaimed ``Security Zone'' in south Lebanon.

Hezbollah and the Iranian guards pulled most of their fighters out of the Sheik Abdallah barracks overnight, leaving a joint token force of about 40 fighters, most of them in civilian outfits and armed with assault rifles and pistols.

The mostly bearded fundamentalist fighters, wearing their trademark black headbands, removed the flags of Iran and the black-and-green flags of Hezbollah showing a fist clinched to an automatic rifle from the entrance and rooftops of the 200,000-square-meter barracks and marched out shortly before troops moved in.

Women on balconies showered the military convoy with rose water and rice to express their joy over the army's return and troops responded by flashing the V-for-victory sign as they drove into the barracks.

Newsmen and photographers were prohibited from entering the compound. However, a cameraman working for Hezbollah's al-Manar television station slipped in and started filming but troops quickly stopped him.

That angered the 40 Hezbollahis and revolutionary guardsmen, who waved clenched fists and shouted Islam's battle cry of Allah Akbar, Arabic for God is Great.

The bearded fighters cocked their rifles and so did military policemen in charge of security at the entrance to the barracks. Reporters and photographers ducked for cover, the two sides shouted at each other for about 10 minutes.

Hezbollah's cameraman was escorted out of the barracks by red-bereted military policemen and the disagreement ended without developing into a firefight.

The Hezbollah commander of the barracks then delivered a speech in which he said: ``The handover of the barracks is an Islamic and nationalist decision designed to encourage the Lebanese army to fight Israel.''

Hezbollah's men responded with shouts of ``death to Israel'' and ``death to America.''

The barracks recovery was part of a drive by the Lebanese army to reinstate government authority that was eroded by the 1975-1990 civil war and restore state-owned buildings from Christian and Muslim militias.

Troops last week seized the seaside command headquarters of the Lebanese Forces, the Christians' main militia, and evicted its commander Samir Geagea with his wife and top aides from the walled compound in Beirut's eastern sector.

The army also pushed into Druse warlord Walid Jumblatt's power base in the Chouf mountains southeast of the capital and took control of two historic palaces and a national library.

The move provoked Jumblatt to suspend his participation in President Elias Hrawi's government, demanding that the army withdraw from the three sites.

The barracks, which is made up of 16 buildings, includes an underground jail in which some of the American hostages kidnapped by pro-Iranian factions were believed to be held.

^END (MS-FN)(

RR0346

R I W0273   233

LEBANON-WOODWARD BOOK,0250

FADLALLAH DENIES WOODWARD'S BOOK CLAIM

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - SHEIK MOHAMMED HUSSEIN FADLALLAH, LEBANON'S MOST INFLUENTIAL SHIITE MOSLEM CLERIC, SUNDAY DENIED A CLAIM IN A NEW BOOK ON THE CIA THAT HE WAS BOUGHT OFF WITH SAUDI ARABIAN MONEY TO STIFLE HIS ANTI-AMERICAN FOLLOWERS.

A STATEMENT ISSUED BY FADLALLAH'S OFFICE REFUTED CLAIMS MADE ABOUT HIM BY AMERICAN JOURNALIST BOB WOODWARD IN THE BOOK, ''VEIL: THE SECRET WARS OF THE CIA, 1981087.'' EXCERPTS WERE PUBLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON POST ON SUNDAY.

THE STATEMENT ACCUSED THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OF SEEKING TO TARNISH FADLALLAH'S IMAGE AS ''A GREAT SYMBOL FOR ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS AROUND THE WORLD.''

FADLALLAH IS SPIRITUAL GUIDE OF THE IRANIAN-BACKED FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE MOSLEM HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD.

FADLALLAH AND HEZBOLLAH HAVE FREQUENTLY BEEN LINKED TO THE TRUCK-BOMBING ATTACKS AGAINST THE U.S. EMBASSY AND MARINE HEADQUARTERS IN BEIRUT IN 1983 IN WHICH MORE THAN 250 AMERICANS DIED, AND WITH THE KIDNAPPING OF FOREIGNERS IN LEBANON.

THE POST SAID THAT WOODWARD'S BOOK SHOWED THAT THE LATE CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM CASEY, EAGER TO RETALIATE FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS ON U.S. INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, SIDESTEPPED OFFICIAL CHANNELS AND ARRANGED FOR SAUDI ARABIAN INTELLIGENCE TO HELP THE CIA IN THREE COVERT OPERATIONS IN THE MIDEAST.

ONE WAS AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST FADLALLAH WITH A CAR BOMB NEAR HIS HOUSE IN BEIRUT'S BIR EL-ABED DISTRICT MARCH 8, 1985. THE BOMBING KILLED 80 PEOPLE, BUT FADLALLAH WAS NOT HURT.

MORE

2026G 27 09 87

RR0347

R I W0274 233

BEIRUT - LEBANON-WOODWARD BOOK 2,0234

THE POST SAID FADLALLAH WAS EVENTUALLY SILENCED WHEN CASEY APPROVED SAUDI PAYMENT OF 2 MILLION DOLLARS IN FOOD, GOODS, AND UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIS FOLLOWERS.

''THIS IS A CHEAP INTELLIGENCE ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT SHEIK FADLALLAH'S IMAGE,'' THE STATEMENT SAID. ''WE EMPHATICALLY DENY RECEIVING ANY SUCH AID.''

THE STATEMENT SAID FADLALLAH DID NOT ORDER ANY STOPPAGE OF SUICIDE BOMBING ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. TARGETS AS A RESULT OF THE ALLEGED DEAL REPORTED IN WOODWARD'S BOOK.

''ALTHOUGH WE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH SUICIDE BOMBING ATTACKS, WE DID TAKE PRIDE IN THEM BECAUSE THEY REFLECTED THE WILL OF LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

WOODWARD CLAIMED THE SAUDIS ALSO HELPED FUNNEL MONEY TO CHAD FOR USE AGAINST LIBYA AND TO ITALY TO INFLUENCE THE 1985 ELECTIONS THERE BY STOPPING THE COMMUNIST PARTY MAKE ANY GAINS.

THE OFFICIAL SAUDI PRESS AGENCY LATE SATURDAY QUOTED AN UNIDENTIFIED GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AS SAYING: ''IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT A NUMBER OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS BECOME INVOLVED IN THE DISSEMINATION OF SUCH REPEATED AND UTTERLY FABRICATED LIES THAT HELP THE INTENTIONS OF THEIR SOURCES WHO ARE KNOWN TO BE ENEMIES OF THE ARAB WORLD AND ISLAM.

''ALL THAT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED...CONCERNING THE KINGDOM -- ATTRIBUTED TO THE AUTHOR WOODWARD WHO QUOTES A DEAD PERSON -- IS TOTALLY DEVOID OF ANY TRUTH. THE KINGDOM HAS PREVIOUSLY CATEGORICALLY DENIED THESE ALLEGATIONS.''

END

2029G 27 09 87

00

RR0210
U I NCB020 INTJ NAT 888 INTA
XDLEBANON-HOSTAGES

‡HEZBOLLAH READY TO SWAP ISRAELI POWS FOR SHIITE INMATES

‡BY MOHAMMED SALAM=
‡ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE NEWLY ELECTED LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, SAID THURSDAY HIS GROUP WAS WILLING TO SWAP ISRAELI PRISONERS FOR SHIITE MUSLIM DETAINEES, A DEAL THAT MIGHT ALSO SECURE THE RELEASE OF WESTERN HOSTAGES.

''I ANNOUNCE THIS THROUGH YOU. WE ARE READY FOR THE EXCHANGE,'' SAID ABBAS MUSAWI, ALCO YJD SHIITE CLERGYMAN WHO ASSUMED LEADERSHIP OF THE PRO-IRANIAN MILITANTS THIS WEEK AFTER SECRET PARTY ELECTIONS.

MUSAWI SPOKE IN AN INTERVIEW AT AN APARLMENT IN SOUTH BEIRUT, A TRADITIONAL HEZBOLLAH STRONGHOLD. THE BLACK-TURBANNED MUSAWI, SAT ON A MATTRESS ON THE FLOOR, FINGERING A STRING OF WORRY BEADS THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW.

ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT OF A SUGGESTION BY SHEIK MOHAMMED MEHDI SHAMSEDDINE, THE HIGHEST-RANKING SHIITE CLERIC IN LEBANON, THAT THE ISRAELI PRISONERS BE SWAPPED FOR SOME 300 SHIITES HELD IN THE KHIAM DETENTION CENTER IN SOUTH LEBANON, MUSAWI SAID:

''THERE HAVE BEEN POSITIVE STEPS RECENTLY. THERE IS AN EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION. WE PRAY TO GOD THAT IT (THE EFFORT) BEAR FRUIT.''

SHAMSEDDINE ON MAY 13 CALLED FOR ''AN ETHICAL, HUMANITARIAN PACKAGE DEAL'' TO EXCHANGE THE SHIITE INMATES FOR THE ISRAELIS. HE SAID HE WAS SURE THAT SUCH A SWAP ''WILL BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF WESTERN HOSTAGES.''

MUSAWI SAID HEZBOLLAH HAS ''CERTAIN CONDITIONS'' FOR SUCH A SWAP, BUT WOULD NOT ELABORATE. HOWEVER, IT IS KNOWN THAT IN ADDITION TO THE INMATES IN KHIAM, HEZBOLLAH IS SEEKING THE RELEASE OF ONE OF ITS MEMBERS, SHEIK ABDUL-KARIM OBEID.

OBEID WAS KIDNAPPED FROM HIS HOME IN THE SOUTHERN LEBANESE VILLAGE OF JIBSHEET BY AN ISRAELI COMMANDO UNIT ON JULY 28, 1989. HE IS BELIEVED HELD IN ISRAEL.

THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT OBEID IS BEING HELD FOR USE IN A POSSIBLE SWAP OF THE ISRAELIS AND THE WESTERN HOSTAGES FOR THE SHIITE INMATES.

SEVEN ISRAELI SERVICEMEN WENT MISSING IN LEBANON AFTER THE 1982 ISRAELI INVASION. IT IS NOT KNOWN HOW MANY OF THEM ARE ALIVE, AND MUSAWI REFUSED TO PROVIDE SUCH DETAILS.

HE ALSO WOULD NOT SAY HOW MANY ISRAELIS ARE HELD BY HEZBOLLAH, BUT SAID THERE WAS COORDINATION WITH PALESTINIAN AND SYRIAN GROUPS WHO HOLD THE OTHERS.

ASKED IF HEZBOLLAH AGREES THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS OVERSEE THE EXCHANGE, MUSAWI SAID: ''THE ICRC IS THE ONLY SIDE CAPABLE OF PLAYING A ROLE. THERE IS NO OPTION BUT TO ACCEPT IT AS A CHANNEL.''

HEZBOLLAH IS BELIEVED TO BE AN UMBRELLA FOR SHIITE MILITANTS HOLDING WESTERN HOSTAGES, ALTHOUGH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PARTY HAS DENIED ANY CONNECTION TO THE KIDNAPPERS.

THERE ARE 13 WESTERNERS MISSING AND BELIEVED HELD HOSTAGE. THEY ARE SIX AMERICANS, FOUR BRITONS, TWO GERMANS AND AN ITALIAN.

‡MORE
1250G 23 05 91

ØØ

RR0213

U I NCB021 INTJ NAT 888 INTA

LEBANON-HOSTAGES, 1ST ADD

#BEIRUT: AN ITALIAN

THE LONGEST-HELD HOSTAGE IS AMERICAN JOURNALIST TERRY ANDERSON, 43, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE WAS KIDNAPPED MARCH 16, 1985.

ASKED WHETHER THE PACKAGE DEAL COULD BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE WESTERNERS, MUSAWI REITERATED THAT HEZBOLLAH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT ISSUE.

IRAN, WHICH PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE RELEASE OF WESTERNERS FROM CAPTIVITY IN LEBANON, HAS SAID THAT IT WOULD HELP AGAIN IF THE WEST PERSUADES ISRAEL TO FREE THE SHIITE INMATES.

MUSAWI SAID HE HAS ''DEVELOPED A FEELING OF UTTER DISGUST BECAUSE THE WESTERN MEDIA HAS BEEN UNFAIR IN DEALING WITH THE

HE SAID THE U.S. MEDIA ''PORTRAYS THE AMERICAN (HOSTAGE) AS W MAGNIFICENT MAN AND FOCUSES WORLD ATTENTION ON HIM, WHILE TENS OF THOUSANDS OE MUSLIMS REMAIN IN THE ISRAELI ENEMY'S PRISON WITH NO MENTION OF THEM.''

#END

1300G 23 05..1

88

R81213

Hezbollah

U I NCB051 01 606 NAT

^LEBANON-IRAN-MILITIAS

^IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS WILL STAY IN LEBANON, COMMANDER SAYS

^BY DONNA ABU-NASR=

^ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE COMMANDER OF IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS IN LEBANON WAS QUOTED WEDNESDAY AS SAYING THAT HIS TROOPS WERE ''GUESTS'' IN LEBANON AND WOULD NOT WITHDRAW AS LONG AS ISRAELI FORCES REMAINED IN THE COUNTRY.

''SO LONG AS ISRAEL IS PRESENT, WE ARE PRESENT,'' SAID HADI RIZA ASKARI IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE LEFTIST BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AS-SAFIR. IF ISRAEL STAYS, WE HAVE TO STAY TO HELP THE PEOPLE.''

ASKARI WAS RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON WHEN HIS ESTIMATED 3,000 REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS WOULD WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON. THE CONTINGENT HAS BEEN BASED IN EAST LEBANON'S BEKAA VALLEY SINCE 1982, WHEN ISRAEL INVADED LEBANON.

ASKARI, THE SIXTH COMMANDER OF THE GUARDS SINCE 1982, SAID HIS FORCES WERE DEPLOYED IN RESPONSE TO ''THE INVITATION OF THE LEBANESE PEOPLE AND TO CONFRONT ISRAEL WHICH WAS THEN OCCUPYING A PART OF LEBANON.''

''THE GUARDS CAME TO BOOST THE MORALE OF THE REVOLUTIONARIES DURING THEIR CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL,'' HE ADDED. ''NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR MISSION WAS DECIDED IN COOPERATION WITH THE SYRIANS.''

THE GUARDS ARE BASED IN AND AROUND THE HILLTOP SHEIK ABDULLAH BARRACKS IN THE ANCIENT TOWN OF BAALBEK IN THE SYRIAN-CONTROLLED BEKAA VALLEY.

THE SYRIANS, WHO MAINTAIN 40,000 TROOPS IN LEBANON AND ARE THE MAIN POWER BROKER HERE, ALLOWED THE IRANIANS INTO LEBANON TO HELP THEM FIGHT THE ISRAELIS AFTER THE ISRAELI INVASION.

ASKARI'S REMARKS WERE SEEN AS A DEFIANCE OF A DECISION BY THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT LAST MONTH TO DISBAND ALL MILITIAS, BOTH LEBANESE AND NON-LEBANESE, BY THE END OF APRIL IN LINE WITH A PEACE PROCESS TO END THE COUNTRY'S NEARLY 16-YEAR-OLD CIVIL WAR.

THE NON-LEBANESE MILITIAS INCLUDE THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS AND YASSER ARAFAT'S PLO GUERRILLAS BASED IN SOUTH LEBANON, WHO ALSO LINK THEIR ARMED PRESENCE TO THAT OF AN ESTIMATED 1,000 ISRAELI TROOPS DEPLOYED IN A BORDER ENCLAVE IN SOUTH LEBANON.

THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC CHALLENGE YET TO THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION FROM ANY OF THE MAJOR MUSLIM AND CHRISTIAN LEBANESE MILITIAS THAT FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR.

THE PRESTIGIOUS AN-NAHAR DAILY SAID WEDNESDAY THE MARADA BRIGADE MILITIA OF FORMER PRESIDENT SULEIMAN FRANJIEH ANNOUNCED IT HAS AGREED TO HAND OVER ITS POSITIONS IN NORTHERN LEBANON TO THE LEBANESE ARMY.

BUT THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION HAS INDICATED IT WOULD NOT ORDER ITS ESTIMATED 6,000 GUERRILLAS TO SURRENDER THEIR ARMS UNCONDITIONALLY.

THE PLO, WHICH IS PRESSING FOR A POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE THE PALESTINIAN PRESENCE, HAS SAID IT WOULD BE WRONG TO DISARM THE PALESTINIANS BEFORE ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM THE ENCLAVE.

''WE ARE NOT A MILITIA,'' SAID ASKARI. ''WE ARE NOT ARMED FORCES. WE CAME HERE UPON THE ORDER OF THE IMAM (AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI) IN COOPERATION WITH SYRIA AND UPON THE INVITATION OF THE LEBANESE IN ORDER TO TRAIN THE PEOPLE.''

^MORE

1900G 10 04 91

5R0315

I NC0052 0L 586 NRI

#LEBANON-IRAN-MILITARY, 1ST ADD

#BEIRUT: THE PEOPLE.''

HE SAID THE INVITATION CAME FROM THE ''LEBANESE MUSLIMS FOR AT THAT TIME THERE WAS NO STATE. ONLY THE SYRIANS WERE THERE,'' HE SAID APPARENTLY ALLUDING TO THE COLLAPSE OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

ASKARI SAID THE QUESTION OF THE GUARDS' WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BARRACKS WOULD BE DECIDED BY SYRIA, IRAN AND THE LEBANESE STATE.

''BASICALLY, WE ARE GUESTS AT THE BARRACKS AND THE BARRACKS IS IN THE HANDS OF ... HEZBOLLAH,'' ADDED ASKARI, REFERRING TO THE FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE GROUP THAT IS IRAN'S PROTEGE.

''WE DON'T SEE ANYTHING NEGATIVE ABOUT OUR PRESENCE IN LEBANON,'' HE SAID.

ASKARI BOASTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS OFFERED VARIOUS SERVICES TO THE LEBANESE, INCLUDING THE MILITARY TRAINING OF SHIITES, SUNNIS AND PALESTINIANS TO HELP THEM FIGHT THE ISRAELIS.

''WE ALSO UNDERTOOK THE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL INDOCTRINATION OF THE PEOPLE AND WE BUILT THE IMAM KHOMEINI HOSPITAL IN BAALBEK WHICH TREATS SOME 15,000 PATIENTS MONTHLY,'' HE ADDED.

IRAN'S CULTURAL INDOCTRINATION CAME IN THE FORM OF ''RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS'' THAT PREACH KHOMEINI'S BRAND OF MILITANT FUNDAMENTALISM AND BOOKSHOPS FEATURING PUBLICATIONS THAT INCITE YOUNGSTERS TO BECOME MARTYRS.

EVER SINCE THE GUARDS AND HEZBOLLAH TOOK BAALBEK AS THEIR BASE, THE ANCIENT TOWNSHIP HAS LOOKED MORE LIKE A MINI ISLAMIC REPUBLIC THAN THE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER IT WAS.

A HUGE PORTRAIT OF KHOMEINI HAS BEEN PAINTED OUTSIDE A SMALL CAFE CALLED ''IRAN CAFE.'' PUBLIC DRINKING AND DANCING ARE PROHIBITED AND MOST WOMEN WEAR A BLACK CHADOR OVER THEIR STREET CLOTHES.

THE STRICT LIFESTYLE IMPOSED ON THE RESIDENTS OF BAALBEK HAS FREQUENTLY DRAWN BITTER CRITICISM FROM THE MORE MODERATE LOCALS.

#END

15OAG 10 04 91

RR0287

U I NCB049 888 NAT 01 MON

LEBANON-SPAIN

#HEZBOLLAH DENIES LINK WITH EXPLOSIVES SHIPMENT

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, ON MONDAY DENIED THAT ANY OF EIGHT SUSPECTED TERRORISTS ARRESTED IN SPAIN AT THE WEEKEND IN CONNECTION WITH A SHIPMENT OF EXPLOSIVES WAS MEMBER OF THE PRO-IRANIAN GROUP.

THE SHIITE MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALIST GROUP SAID IN A STATEMENT: ''WE VIEW WITH GREAT CONCERN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THOSE FALSE ACCUSATIONS MIGHT HIDE BAD INTENTIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN AGGRESSION AGAINST THE MOSLEMS IN SPAIN.''

POLICE THE MEDITERRANEAN PORT OF VALENCIA WERE SEARCHING THROUGH A 19-TON SHIPMENT OF CANNED FOOD FROM SIDON, SOUTH LEBANON, AFTER DISCOVERING 120 KILOGRAMS (264 POUNDS) OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES.

SPANISH POLICE SAID SATURDAY THE MEN, CARRYING VARIOUS PASSPORTS, WERE ARRESTED ON SUSPICION THAT THEY HAD IMPORTED THE EXPLOSIVES TO ESTABLISH A BASE FOR ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. AND OTHER TARGETS IN EUROPE, AND THAT AT LEAST THREE WERE HEZBOLLAH MEMBERS.

THEY IDENTIFIED THE THREE AS ABBAS MOHAMMED HALLAN, 23, OF KUWAIT, HASSAN HASSAN RAHD, 24, OF BRASIL, AND ALI MOHAMMED SBAITI, 31, OF LEBANON.

HALLAN AND RAHD WERE ARRESTED IN VALENCIA. SBAITI WAS ARRESTED WITH FIVE OTHER MEN IN HIS MADRID APARTMENT, WERE POLICE FOUND TWO KILOGRAMS (4.4 POUNDS) OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES.

THREE OTHERS WERE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR IRAQI PASSPRTS AS MOHAMMED MEHUSSEIN, 34, AND MAKI MOHAMMED, 34. THE EIGHTH, A SUDANESE, WAS IDENTIFIED AS YASSIN ELAMIN ALAAN, 27.

HEZBOLLAH WAS FORMED AND TRAINED BY IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS AFTER THE 1982 ISRAELI INVASION OF LEBANON. ABOUT 2,000 REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS REMAIN IN LEBANON BACKING HEZBOLLAH'S ESTIMATED 3,500 FIGHTERS.

HEZBOLLAH IS BELIEVED TO BE AN UMBRELLA FOR SHIITE EXTREMISTS HOLDING MOST OF THE 18 WESTERN HOSTAGES MISSING IN LEBANON.

#END

1812G 27 11 89

RR0218
U I NCR038 01 NAT 888
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH
*LASERPHOTO AVAILABLE

*HEZBOLLAH COMMEMORATES SUICIDE TRUCK-BOMBERS

*BY DONNA ABU-NASR=
*ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE IRANIAN-BACKED FUNDAMENTALIST HEZBOLLAH COMMEMORATED BOMBINGS AGAINST U.S., FRENCH AND ISRAELI TARGETS IN LEBANON WITH A MILITARY PARADE Sunday THAT DISPLAYED 50 FIGHTERS ALLEGEDLY GROOMED TO CARRY OUT SIMILAR SUICIDE ATTACKS.

SOME 800 HEZBOLLAH ACTIVISTS, YOUNG TEENAGERS WITH FUZZ ON THEIR CHINS AND OLDER ONES WITH BUSHY BLACK BEARDS, TOOK PART IN THE 3-HOUR PARADE IN BIR EL-ABED, A SHIITE MOSLEM SLUM IN SOUTH BEIRUT.

''YOU ARE THE FURTURE OF OUR NATION,'' HEZBOLLAH'S SENIOR CLEARGYMEN, SHEIK SOBHI TOFAILI, SAID IN A SPEECH. ''OUR HOPES ARE PINNED ON YOU.''

ANOTHER CLERGYMAN, ~~HASSAN~~ Hussein GHIBRIS, SAID: ''WE PLEDGE TO REMAIN THE DAGGER WE STAB INTO THEIR VEINS, THE SWORD THAT PIERCES THEIR HEARTS, THE TIME BOMB THAT BLOWS THEM UP AND THE MINE THEY DARE NOT STEP UPON BECAUSE IT WILL KILL THEM ALL.''

THOUSANDS OF WILD-EYED HEZBOLLAHIS, WAVING CLENCHED FISTS, RESPONDED WITH TUMULTUOUS CRIES OF ''DEATH TO AMERICA...DEATH TO ISRAEL.''

THEY ALSO RAISED SLOGANS THAT READ: ''WE ARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL, OH KHOMEINI,'' RENEWING ALLEGIANCE TO THE LATE FOUNDER OF IRAN'S ISLAMIC REPUBLIC, AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI, WHO DIED ON JUNE 3.

THE RALLY WAS CALLED TO MARK THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF A SUICIDE TRUCK-BOMBING AGAINST ISRAEL'S MILITARY HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHERN PORT CITY OF TYRE.

THE ATTACK ON NOV.11, 1982, FIVE MONTHS AFTER ISRAEL INVADED LEBANON, KILLED 75 PEOPLE, MOST OF THEM ISRAELI SOLDIERS. AHMED KASSIR, THE TRUCK DRIVER WHO PERISHED IN THE BLAST, IS HAILED BY HEZBOLLAH AS ITS FIRST SUICIDE BOMBER.

HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, THEN COMPRISED A FEW DOZEN FIGHTERS, TRAINED BY IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS WHO HAD COME TO LEBANON TO HELP FIGHT AGAINST THE INVADING ISRAELIS.

HEZBOLLAH NOW COMPRISES SOME 4,000 MEMBERS, BACKED BY UP TO 2,000 REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS STILL ENTRENCHED IN EAST LEBANON.

THE PARADE WAS HELD A BLOCK AWAY FROM HAY MADI, ANOTHER SHIITE SLUM WHERE MOST OF THE 18 WETSREN HOSTAGES ARE BELIEVED TO BE HELD. HEZBOLLAH IS THE UMBRELLA FOR THE SHIITE EXTREMISTS HOLDING THEM.

AT LEAST 10 OTHER SUICIDE BOMBINGS WERE CLAIMED BY HEZBOLLAH OR UNDERGROUND FACTIONS AFFILIATED WITH IT AFTER THE ATTACK IN TYRE.

THE BLOODIEST WERE THE SIMULTANEOUS BOMBINGS OF THE U.S. MARINE BASE AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF FRENCH PARATROOPERS IN BEIRUT ON OCT.23, 1983. THESE KILLED 241 AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND 58 FRENCH PARATROOPERS WHO WERE PART OF A MULTI-NATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE.

ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR HOLY WAR, WHICH CLAIMED THE TWIN TRUCK-BOMBINGS, NOW HOLDS AT LEAST TWO OF EIGHT AMERICAN HOSTAGES WHO ARE AMONG THE WESTERN CAPTIVES IN LEBANON. THEY ARE TERRY ANDERSON AND THOMAS SUTHERLAND.

ISLAMIC JIHAD ALSO CLAIMED THE SUICIDE BOMBING OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIRUT IN APRIL 1983, IN WHICH 62 PEOPLE WERE KILLED. A SIMILAR ATTACK ON THE EMBASSY ANNEX IN AUKAR, NORTH OF BEIRUT, ON SEPT.20, 1984, KILLED 12 PEOPLE.

#MORE

1635G 12 11 89

88

241
75
58
62
12
448

RR0222
U I NCB042 01 NAT 888
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, 1ST ADD
#BEIRUT, 12 PEOPLE

A GROUP OF 50 BEARDED MEN, STAMPING THEIR FEET AND CRYING ''WE'RE MARCHING TO MARTYRDOM,'' FILED PAST THE PLATFORM, WHERE THE TURBANED CLERGYMEN WERE SEATED.

A COMMENTATOR, SPEAKING THROUGH A LOUDSPEAKER, SAID THEY WERE ''TRAINED SUICIDE BOMBERS.'' HEZBOLLAH MILITIAMEN BANNED PHOTOGRAPHERS FROM TAKING PICTURES OF THIS PARTICULAR GROUP.

HEZBOLLAHIS PARADED VARIOUS WEAPONS, INCLUDING 106MM RECOILLESS GUNS, SHOULDER-FIRED ARMOR-PIERCING ROCKETS, 155MM HOWITZERS AND ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS.

PARATROOPERS WITH PARACHUTES STRAPPED TO THEIR BACKS AND MILITIAMEN IN GREEN ANTI-GAS OUTFITS FOLLOWED. HEZBOLLAH OFFICIALS SAID THE ANTI-GAS SUITS WERE MADE IN IRAN.

A GROUP OF YOUNG TEANAGERS IN TRACK SUITS WERE NEXT. THE COMMENTATOR INTRODUCED THEM AS THE ''ATHLETES WHOM KHOMEINI LOVED.'' THEY CHANTED: ''WE ARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL, OH KHOMEINI.''

THEY CARRIED COFFINS TO SYMBOLIZE THEIR PREPAREDNESS TO DIE.

LIFE-SIZE PORTRAITS OF KHOMEINI AND HIS SUCCESSOR AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI, FLANKED BY IRANIAN FLAGS, DECORATED THE FIELD. PICTURES OF FIVE SUICIDE BOMBERS WERE PROPPED AGAINST THE PLATFORM ALONG WITH SIX PAINTINGS DEPICTING SUICIDE OPERATIONS.

A POSTER SHOWED A RED ROSE ITS STEM RISING FROM A POOL OF BLOOD CARVED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE U.S. FLAG.

THE STAR OF THE PARADE WAS 3-YEAR-OLD ALI TOFAILI, A RELATIVE OF SOBHI TOFAILI, ONE OF THE MILITIA'S LEADERS.

THE BOY WAS DRESSED IN CAMOUFLAGE FATIGUES. HE CARRIED A TOY GUN IN ONE HAND AND AN IRANIAN FLAG IN THE OTHER.

WHEN ASKED WHAT HE WAS CARRYING, HE LOOKED AT THE TWO OBJECTS AND MUTTERED ''I DON'T KNOW.''

#END
16520 12 11 89

RR0237
U I BTA028 07 BTM
,07 BTM
MSG▯▯ APW-KING
X1367, IT WAS ONE OF THE RARE DISPLAY OF MILITARY MUSCLE BY HEZBOLLAH. IT WAS, HOWEVER, THE FIRST PARADE DEVOTED BY HEZBOLLAH TO THE MEMORY OF ALL ITS 11 SUICIDE BOMBERS. THEIR CROWDS USUALLY BEHAVE THE SAME WAY IN PREVIOUS HEZBOLLAH POLITICAL RALLIES -- AS FAR AS BANNER-WAVING, SLOGAN-SHOUTING AND DEATH VOWS ARE CONCERNED.
RGDS.
BEIRUT

1732G 12 11 89

▯▯

Hezbollah file -

KRU285

U R NCA695 BTA

MAGEE BEIRUT

RE IRANIAN MISSION IN LEBANON, DON'T THINK YOU'VE REALLY GRASPED WHAT NEEDED. SAYING AMAL HAS REJECTED IRANIAN REQUEST ALLOW HEZBOLLAH OPERATE IN SOUTH LEB IS RATHER PAROCHIAL VIEW AND YOU'RE ASSUMING THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT RAMIFICATIONS ARE OF IRANIANS GETTING INVOLVED IN LEBANESE AFFAIRS.

LET'S TRY IT FROM ANOTHER TACK. WE HAVE IRANIANS MEDIATING IN A REGION THE SYRIANS CONSIDER THEIRS. LOCAL ANIMOSITIES APART, I GUESS WE CAN ASSUME THE IRANIANS ARE THERE ON SYRIAN SUFFERANCE TO KEEP THE LID ON. SO LET'S TAKE IT FROM THERE.

FRANKLY, WHAT YOU FILED FAILS TO TELL THE WHOLE STY. IF THERE'S A PROBLEM INVOLVED IN WRITING IT THAT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT, LET US KNOW. BUT, I THINK A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT THIS SITUATION IS ESSENTIAL.

WHAT WE HAVE IS IRANIANS, AND NOT JUST SOME SECOND-STRING GROUP, INTERVENING IN A DISPUTE IN LEBANON, PRESUMABLY WITH SYRIAN APPROVAL. GIVEN FACT THAT HEZBOLLAH GOT CREAMED IN SOUTH LEB, WOULD SEEM THAT IRAN SOFT-PEDALLING IN INTERESTS OF THE ''STRATEGIC ALLIANCE.'' TAKE IT FROM THERE.

WHILE REALIZING YR PROBLEMS RE HEZBOLLAH, THINK THERE'S PLENTY ROOM TO EXPAND THIS STY A LITTLE MORE WITHOUT COMPROMISING ANYONE.

PLS TAKE SECOND LOOK AND REFILE SOONEST WITH MORE DETAIL. WHO ARE THESE GUYS? WHAT ARE THEY DOING THERE? HAS SYRIA, VIA AMAL, GOT THE UPPER HAND? IS LEBANON, ONCE AGAIN, ABOUT TO GET HAMMERED BY OUTSIDE POWERS?

THESE ARE JUST BASIC QUESTIONS. YOU GUYS TAKE IT HOW YOU SEE IT. BUT LET'S NOT SHUFFLE OFF THIS STY IN 230 WORDS THAT DON'T TELL THE READER (CURSED BE HIS NAME) ANYTHING ABOUT ANYTHING. LET'S TAKE A BROADER PERSPECTIVE. ADVISE PROSPECTS. CHEERS. BLANCHE.

NICOSIA

16326 26 04 88

NN

RR0126 5C

U I HCB019 NCM NAT 999 01 PSM

LEBANON-VIOLENCE

^HEZBOLLAH THREATENS U.S., FRANCE, VATICAN

^BY MOHAMMED SALAM-

^ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH ON SATURDAY PLEDGED TO LAUNCH SUICIDE ATTACKS TO FOIL WHAT IT CALLED A CAMPAIGN BY THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE AND THE VATICAN DIRECTED AGAINST MOSLEMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

''THE FRENCH NAVAL BUILDUP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, THE POPE'S FANATIC AND BIASED STANDS AND AMERICA'S MOVES AT THE (UNITED NATIONS) SECURITY COUNCIL ARE PART OF THE ARROGANT CAMPAIGN AIMED AT TAMING THE MOSLEMS,'' HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, SAID IN A STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN BEIRUT NEWSPAPERS.

THE ALLEGED CAMPAIGN, ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT, ALSO AIMS AT STRIPPING MOSLEMS OF THEIR RIGHTS AND COVERING UP ISRAEL'S CRIMES IN ALL THE TERRITORY IT HOLDS.

''THIS CAMPAIGN WILL ONLY LEAD TO FAILURE BECAUSE THE ERA OF THE CRUSADERS' INVASION IS GONE FOLLOWING THE SPREAD OF THE SPIRIT OF MARTYRDOM THAT FORCED THE (U.S.) MARINES AND THE FRENCH TO RETREAT IN 1983,'' THE STATEMENT THREATENED.

THAT WAS A REFERENCE TO THE SUICIDE TRUCK BOMB ATTACKS AGAINST THE U.S. MARINE BASE AND THE FRENCH PARATROOP HEADQUARTERS IN BEIRUT THAT KILLED 241 AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND 58 FRENCH SOLDIERS IN OCTOBER 1983.

THE BOMBINGS EVENTUALLY LED TO THE WITHDRAWAL FROM BEIRUT OF A MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE THAT ALSO CONTAINED ITALIAN AND BRITISH CONTINGENTS.

REPORTS SAID THE STATEMENT WAS RELEASED AFTER A FOUR-DAY MEETING OF THE HEZBOLLAH STUDENT COUNCIL.

HEZBOLLAH'S THREAT WAS MADE AFTER FRANCE DISPATCHED THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER FOSCH AND THE DESTROYER DOUQUESENE TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR RENE ALA TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT FRIDAY THE NAVAL FORCE WAS DEPLOYED OFF THE LEBANON COAST TO HELP EVACUATE THE ESTIMATED 7,000 FRENCH NATIONALS--MOST DUEL CITIZENS--IF NECESSARY. PARIS HAS NO INTENTION TO INTERVENE MILITARILY, HE SAID.

ALSO SATURDAY, POLICE SAID ONE PERSON WAS KILLED AND NINE WOUNDED IN CLASHES BETWEEN SYRIAN AND CHRISTIAN FORCES AROUND THE CHRISTIAN ENCLAVE.

BY POLICE COUNT, THE 5-MONTH CONFRONTATION BETWEEN GEN. MICHEL AOUN'S 20,000 PREDOMINANTLY CHRISTIAN TROOPS AND SYRIA'S 40,000 SOLDIERS BACKED BY ALLIED LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN FACTIONS HAS KILLED 780 PEOPLE AND WOUNDED 2,118.

SYRIA AND IRAN ASSEMBLED LEADERS OF THEIR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN MILITIA ALLIES IN DAMASCUS TUESDAY TO DECLARE THEIR DETERMINATION TO ELIMINATE AOUN.

DRUSE WARLORD WALID JUMBLATT, SYRIA'S CLOSEST ALLY IN THE ONFRONTATION WITH AOUN, REJECTED A U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL CALL FOR CEASE-FIRE IN THE CONFRONTATION WITH THE 54-YEAR-OLD MARONITE LEADER.

''FRANCE CAN TAKE THE GENERAL ON ONE OF ITS WARSHIPS AND GIVE IM A VILLA IN FRANCE,'' JUMBLATT TOLD REPORTERS.

THE DRUSE LEADER SAID HIS PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST PARTY MILITIA WAS PREPARED TO ''FIGHT AOUN TO THE END.''

THE LEFTIST DAILY NEWSPAPER AS-SAFIR SAID JUMBLATT TOLD FRENCH OVERNMENT ENVOY ALAIN DECAUX FRIDAY THAT ''WE WILL NOT ACCEPT A IALOGUE WITH AOUN.''

ANDRE

0859G 19 08 89

##

RR0171

U I N0104 04 23 08 87

LEBANON-VIOLENCE, CORRECTION,0047

BEIRUT, LEBANON: TO CORRECT SPELLING OF FRENCH WARSHIPS' NAMES, SUB FOR 9TH GRAF: HEZBOLLAH'S THREAT ... EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

HEZBOLLAH'S THREAT FOLLOWS THE FRENCH DISPATCH OF THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER FOCH AND THE DESTROYER DUQUESENE TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR, 9TH GRAF

1130G 19 08 89

88

RR0127

U I NCB021 NCM NAT 888 01

LEBANON-VIOLENCE, 1ST ADD

BEIRUT: WITH AOUN

DECAUX ENDED A TWO-DAY MISSION IN LEBANON EARLY SATURDAY, LEAVING VIA MILITARY HELICOPTER FOR LARNACA, CYPRUS WHERE HE TRANSFERRED TO AN EXECUTIVE JET BOUND FOR PARIS.

ALA DESCRIBED DECAUX'S VISITS, WHICH INCLUDED TALKS WITH JUMBLATT, AOUN AND OTHER MOSLEM AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS AS ''SUCCESSFUL.'' HE WOULD NOT GO INTO DETAILS.

JUMBLATT, ACCORDING TO AS-SAFIR, SAID HEZBOLLAH HAS ALSO ENTERED THE BATTLE AGAINST AOUN AND PLEDGED THAT A CEASE-FIRE WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED IF IRAQ CONTINUES TO SUPPLY AOUN WITH WEAPONS.

IRAQ, SYRIA'S MAIN ARAB FOE, HAS DECLARED SUPPORT FOR AOUN'S ''WAR OF LIBERATION'' TO DRIVE THE 40,000 SYRIAN TROOPS OUT OF PREDOMINANTLY MOSLEM LEBANESE TERRITORIES UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN, PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT AND KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN AGREED AT A MEETING IN BAGHDAD FRIDAY TO CALL AN EMERGENCY FULL-FLEDGED ARAB SUMMIT ON LEBANON.

THE STATE-RUN IRAQI NEWS AGENCY SAID THE THREE LEADERS SAID AN ARAB SUMMIT WAS NEEDED TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION IN LEBANON ''QUICKLY TO ENCOUNTER THE DANGEROUS THREATS THE ARAB NATION IS FACING AT THE PRESENT TIME.''

INA SAID IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ ALSO SENT A LETTER TO THE ARAB LEAGUE WARNING AGAINST A SYRIAN-IRANIAN ALLIANCE THAT AIMS TO OVERTHROW AOUN AND UNDERMINE THE ARAB LEAGUE.

THE CURRENT ROUND OF VIOLENCE BROKE OUT MARCH 8, TWO DAYS AFTER AOUN BLOCKADED ILLEGAL PORTS RUN BY THE PSP AND ANOTHER SYRIAN-BACKED MILITIA SOUTH OF BEIRUT FOR DENYING THE AILING STATE TREASURY ABOUT 100 MILLION DOLLARS IN LOST CUSTOMS DUES ANNUALLY.

THE SYRIANS AND ALLIED FORCES RETALIATED BY BESIEGING AND SHELLING THE 310-SQUARE-MILE (800-SQUARE-KILOMETER) CHRISTIAN ENCLAVE NORTHEAST OF BEIRUT.

BEIRUT TOOK THE BRUNT OF THE SHELLING DUELS WHICH FORCED ALL BUT 150,000 OF ITS 1.5 MILLION POPULATION TO SEEK REFUGE IN SAFER AREAS.

END

0903G 19 08 89

88

AR0256
U I NCB066 NCN NAT 888 01
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH
$WITH LEBANON-HOSTAGES
$LASERPHOTO AVAILABLE
$HEZBOLLAH LEADER SAYS ISRAELI SOLDIER COULD BE KILLED
$BY DONNA ABU-NASR=
$ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BAALBEK, LEBANON (AP) - A SENIOR HEZBOLLAHI LEADER SAID SUNDAY AN ISRAELI SOLDIER IT HOLDS COULD BE KILLED UNLESS ISRAEL FREES AN ABDUCTED SHIITE MOSLEM CLERIC AND ADMITTED THE PRO-IRANIAN PARTY WIELDS INFLUENCE OVER THE KIDNAPPERS OF WESTERN HOSTAGES.

''IF AMERICA IS ABLE TO HELP ITSELF AND HELP ITS HOSTAGES BY STOPPING ITS SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL AND BY NOT PARTICIPATING IN ANYTHING THAT HURTS MOSLEMS IN LEBANON... THIS COULD ENCOURAGE HEZBOLLAH TO THINK OF A WAY TO HELP RESOLVE THE HOSTAGE ISSUE,'' SAID HUSSEIN MOUSAWI SAID.

MOUSAWI SPOKE AT A MEETING WITH FOREIGN REPORTERS ARRANGED BY HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IN THE ANCIENT TOWN OF BAALBEK, 50 MILES (80 KILOMETERS) NORTHEAST OF BEIRUT.

ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEND TO THE TWO ISRAELI SOLDIERS THE PARTY HOLDS IF SHEIK ABDUL-KARIM OBEID, A HEZBOLLAH-AFFILIATED CLERIC, IS NOT RELEASED, MOUSAWI SAID:

''IF WE FIND OUT THAT THE INTERESTS OF ISLAM AND MOSLEMS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE OPPRESSED DICTATES THAT ONE OF THE ISRAELI SOLDIERS BE KILLED, SO WILL IT BE,'' MOUSAWI SAID.

''IF THE CONFLICT REACHES THIS STAGE, THIS DECISION WILL BE TAKEN,'' HE ADDED.

MOUSAWI ADMITTED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE PRO-IRANIAN ORGANIZATIONS HOLDING THE 16 WESTERN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON ARE '''KNOWN TO US AND WE HOLD CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM FROM TIME TO TIME.''

''THERE ARE TELEPHONE CALLS, HELLO'S BETWEEN US,'' HE ADDED.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HEZBOLLAH HAS PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT HAS CONTACTS WITH THE HOSTAGE-HOLDERS.

ALTHOUGH HEZBOLLAH HAS CONSISTENTLY DENIED IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE ABDUCTION OF THE WESTERN HOSTAGES, IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE THE UMBRELLA FOR SHIITE MOSLEM EXTREMISTS HOLDING MOST OF THEM.

$MORE

1744D 06 08 89

CS

RR0263
U I NCB069 NAT 003 01
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, 1ST ADD
=BAALBEK: OF THEM.

''IF I SAID THAT WE DID NOT KNOW ANYONE FROM THESE GROUPS OR THERE WAS NO CONTACT BETWEEN US, YOU SHOULD NOT BELIEVE IT,'' HE TOLD REPORTERS.

''AFTER ALL, WE LIVE IN LEBANON, WE LIVE IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS (OF BEIRUT), WE LIVE IN BAALBEK AND THE SOUTH ... WE KNOW WHO DOES WHAT,'' MOUSAWI ADDED.

HE DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAILS.

''IS THIS AN INTERROGATION?'' HE LAUGHED. ''LET'S STICK TO JOURNALISM.''

IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT THE WESTERN HOSTAGES WERE AT SOME POINT DETAINED IN BEIRUT'S SOUTHERN SLUMS, BAALBEK OR SOUTH LEBANON WHERE HEZBOLLAH MAINTAINS STRONGHOLDS.

''(THE HOSTAGE HOLDERS) MAY LISTEN TO US MORE THAN THEY WOULD TO ALGERIA BECAUSE OUR VOICE IS CLOSER TO THEM AND WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER,'' ADDED MOUSAWI.

ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON KHALED HASNAWI HAS SAID HIS COUNTRY IS UNDERTAKING A NEW INITIATIVE TO FREE ALL THE WESTERN HOSTAGES.

MOUSAWI DENIED THERE HAVE BEEN ANY NEGOTIATIONS ON AN ISRAELI OFFER TO TRADE OBEID AND TRADE SHIITE PRISONERS FOR THREE ISRAELI SERVICEMEN AND ALL WESTERN HOSTAGES.

''LET THEM (THE ISRAELIS) KIDNAP 250 MORE CLERICS, THERE WILL BE NO NEGOTIATIONS. LET THEM KIDNAP TWO THIRDS OF HEZBOLLAH IF THEY COULD, THERE WILL BE NO NEGOTIATIONS,'' MOUSAWI SAID.

HE SAID THE ONLY SOLUTION WHERE ISRAEL WAS CONCERNED IS ''THE SWORD.''

=ANDRE
1754G 06 08 89

<=

RR0273

U I NC0073 NCN NAT 000 01

LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, 2ND ADD

#BAALBEK: ''THE SWORD.''

OBEID, 33, WAS ABDUCTED WITH TWO COMPANIONS FROM HIS HOUSE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON BY ISRAELI COMMANDOS JULY 28 AND FLOWN TO ISRAEL.

MOUSAWI SAID HE COULD NOT CONFIRM THAT U.S. MARINE LT. COL. WILLIAM R. HIGGINS WAS DEAD.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE OPPRESSED ON EARTH, A PRO-IRANIAN GROUP, SAID IT KILLED HIGGINS LAST MONDAY BECAUSE ISRAEL REFUSED TO RELEASE OBEID.

''THE ORGANIZATION OF THE OPPRESSED ON EARTH SHOULD ANSWER THAT QUESTION,'' HE SAID. ''IF WE HAD HAD THE POSSIBILITY TO CONFIRM (HIS DEATH) WE WOULD HAVE CONFIRMED IT TO (MARRACK) GOULDING,'' MOUSAWI SAID.

GOULDING, HEAD OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, HELD THREE DAYS OF TALKS WITH LEBANESE LEADERS LAST WEEK TO TRY TO DETERMINE HIGGINS' FATE BEFORE GOING TO DAMASCUS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH SYRIAN OFFICIALS.

HIGGINS, A 44-YEAR-OLD VIETNAM VETERAN WAS COMMANDING A 76-MAN OBSERVER UNIT ATTACHED TO THE U.N. PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN SOUTH LEBANON WHEN HE WAS KIDNAPPED FEB. 17, 1988.

IN ADDITION TO HIGGINS, 16 WESTERN HOSTAGES ARE HELD IN LEBANON -- EIGHT AMERICANS, FOUR BRITONS, TWO WEST GERMANS, AN IRISHMAN AND AN ITALIAN

GOULDING MET SUNDAY WITH SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA AND NABIH BERRI, LEADER OF THE SYRIAN-BACKED AMAL MILITIA.

GOULDING TOLD REPORTERS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA AND NABIH BERRI, WHO HEADS THE SYRIAN-BACKED AMAL MILITIA ''TOLD ME WHAT THEY KNEW ABOUT THE FATE OF COLONEL HIGGINS AND ABOUT THE HOSTAGE SITUATION GENERALLY,'' HE SAID.

THE U.N. OFFICIAL SAID ''BOTH SHOWED COOPERATION'' IN TRYING ''TO RESOLVE THE HOSTAGE CRISIS.''

HE SAID IN A BBC RADIO INTERVIEW SUNDAY THAT HE HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE HIGGINS' FATE BUT ADDED:''THE MAJORITY VIEW IS THAT COLONEL HIGGINS IS DEAD, BUT THAT'S NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.''

ALTHOUGH AMAL IS NOT INVOLVED IN HOSTAGE-TAKING, IT WIELDS INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON WHERE HIGGINS WAS KIDNAPPED.

IN A SEPARATE INTERVIEW, BERRI TOLD BBC RADIO:''I AM SURE THAT MR. HIGGINS WAS ALIVE BEFORE THE AFFAIR OF MR.OBEIOD AND I DON'T THINK HE'S STILL ALIVE NOW.''

GOULDING, HOWEVER, SAID THAT ''A KIND OF SUBDUED OPTIMISM'' HAD EMERGED ABOUT FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE HOSTAGE PROBLEM.

''THERE IS A WIDESPREAD FEELING THAT FOR VARIOUS REASONS THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE TODAY IS MORE CONDUCIVE TO A SOLUTION OF TH HOSTAGE PROBLEM THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE OFTEN IN THE PAST,'' HE SAID IN THE INTERVIEW, MONITORED IN NICOSIA, CYPRUS.

ASKED IF HE HAD A MESSAGE FOR THOSE WAITING FOR NEWS OF THE HOSTAGES, THE U.N. OFFICIAL SAID:''THEY MUST NEVER LOSE HOPE. THEY MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX SITUATION... YOU CAN'T FLIP A SWITCH AND PRODUCE THE RESULTS YOU WANT.''

HE ADDED=''THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES IS GOING TO BE A LONG AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL PROCESS OF QUIET DIPLOMACY... CONDUCTED IN PRIVATE AND NOT BY PUBLIC STATEMENTS...''

*END

18180 06 08 89

GS

AR0294

U I NC0081 NCH NAT 000 01

LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH, 2ND ADD SUBSTITUTION

BEIRUT: TO INSERT MOUSAWI COMMENT ON HIGGINS' DEATH, SUB FOR 2ND GRAF: MOUSAWI SAID... WAS DEAD.''

MOUSAWI LAUDED THE REPORTED HANGING OF U.S. MARINE LT. COL. WILLIAM R. HIGGINS, SAYING, ''BRAVO.''

''BRAVO FOR THE OPPRESSED ON EARTH BECAUSE CHALLENGING THE ISLAMIC NATION SHOULD NOT CONTINUE,'' HE SAID.

BUT MOUSAWI SAID HE WAS UNABLE TO CONFIRM THAT HIGGINS WAS DEAD.

''THE ORGANIZATION, 3RD GRAF

$END

19240 06 08 89

00

RR0200

A I NC2033 01 388 NAT TKN

#IRAN-RAFSANJANI

#IRAN, SYRIA SAID TO REACH AGREEMENT ON HEZBOLLAH

#BY ANWAR FARUQI=

#ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - SOURCES SAID IRANIAN PRESIDENT HASHEMI RAFSANJANI ENDED HIS VISIT HERE MONDAY HAVING WORKED AROUND A SYRIAN-BACKED DIRECTIVE THAT WOULD HAVE FORCED THE IRANIAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH MILITIA IN LEBANON TO GIVE UP ITS ARMS.

RAFSANJANI, MAKING HIS FIRST OVERSEAS TRIP SINCE BEING ELECTED PRESIDENT IN 1989, LEFT FOR A THREE-DAY VISIT TO TURKEY.

HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE THAT THE TWO SIDES WERE IN AGREEMENT ON ALL ISSUES, SAYING, ''DON'T BELIEVE ANYTHING BEING WRITTEN ABOUT ANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US.''

SOURCES CLOSE TO THE IRANIAN DELEGATION SAID IN RAFSANJANI'S TALKS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, IT WAS AGREED THE HEZBOLLAH MILITANTS WOULD CONTINUE TO FUNCTION IN THE BEKAA VALLEY, ACROSS THE SYRIAN BORDER, AND IN SOUTH LEBANON, NEAR AN ISRAELI-CONTROLLED ENCLAVE.

THE PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE FUNDAMENTALISTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE HOLDING MOST OF THE 13 WESTERN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON.

IRAN'S CONTINGENT OF SOME 2,000 REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS, STATIONED IN BAALBEK AND USED TO ARM AND TRAIN THE HEZBOLLAH MILITANTS, WILLAH
F

BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN, THE SOURCES SAID.

UNDER AN ARAB LEAGUE PEACE PLAN TO END LEBANON'S 16-YEAR CIVIL WAR, ALL MILITIAS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO DISARM BY TUESDAY.

BUT AN EX-REVOLUTIONARY GUARD, PART OF RAFSANJANI'S TEAM, SAID THE SYRIANS WOULD NEVER DISARM HEZBOLLAH UNTIL ISRAELI FORCES REMAINED IN SOUTH LEBANON.

HE SAID THE SYRIANS COULD BE SURE OF THE PRO-IRANIAN MILITANTS' SUPPORT IN ANY CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL.

THE DIRECTIVE HAD WORRIED IRAN, WHICH EXERCISES ITS INFLUENCE IN LEBANON THROUGH LOYAL MILITANTS AND THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS.

THE SOURCES, SPEAKING ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY, SAID THE IRANIANS, USUALLY INTRANSIGENT OVER ANY NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE, HAD RAISED NO OBJECTIONS OVER SYRIAN DISCUSSIONS WITH WASHINGTON TO BRING PEACE TO THE REGION.

RAFSANJANI ENDED HIS VISIT SUNDAY WITH A TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH ASSAD, WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALI AKBAR VELAYATI AND HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART FAROUK AL-SHARAA.

WHILE IN DAMASCUS RAFSANJANI ALSO MET WITH A DELEGATION OF THE HEZBOLLAH, INCLUDING SHEIK MOHAMMED HUSSEIN FADLALLAH, THE MOST INFLUENTIAL SHIITE MUSLIM CLERIC IN LEBANON.

HE REASSURED THE MILITANTS THEY WOULD REMAIN AS A FIGHTING FORCE UNTIL THE END OF ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION THERE, AND PLEDGED IRAN'S CONTINUED SUPPORT.

THE MEETING, AND EARLIER CRYPTIC REMARKS BY FADLALLAH, CLAIMED THAT THE ISSUE OF THE HOSTAGES HAD ''REACHED AN ADVANCED STAGE OF RIPENESS,'' AND THAT THE MATTER WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED IN LEBANON.

THAT RAISED HOPES FOR THE EARLY RELEASE OF THE 13 WESTERNERS, INCLUDING SIX AMERICANS.

BUT THE IRANIAN SOURCES CLOSE TO RAFSANJANI'S DELEGATION CAUTIONED AGAINST OPTIMISM FOR THE CAPTIVES.

THEY INDICATED THE HOSTAGES WOULD NOT BE FREED UNTIL A PRINCIPAL DEMAND OF THE IRANIANS AND THE KIDNAP GROUPS, CALLING FOR ISRAEL TO RELEASE SOME 400 ARABS IT HOLDS IN LEBANON.

@MORE
1346 25 04 91

ae

RR0201
U I NCB034 01 888 NAT TYM
$IRAN-RAFSANJANI, 1ST ADD
$DAMASCUS: IN LEBANON.

SOURCES ALSO SAID IRAN AND SYRIA HAD RENEWED AN OIL AGREEMENT, BUT NO DETAILS WERESRELEASED. IRAN HAS SUPPLIED SYRIA, ITS MAIN ARAB ALLY DURING THE WAR WITH IRAQ, WITH OIL AT HIGHLY FAVORABLE TERMS. IRANIANS SAY THE SYRIANS STILL OWE THEM 2.3 ?8))89, $9))-4?, BUT THE SYRIANS SAY THEY WERE OVERCHARGED.

SOURCES SAID IRAN IS NOW DEMANDING 500 MILLION, BUT SYRIA IS OFFERING A BARTER AGREEMENT RATHER THAN CASH.

THE LAST MEETING WAS BELIEVED FOCUSED ON RAFSANJANI SEEKING AN IRANIAN ROLE IN AN ARAB SECURITY PACT FOR THE GULF, SIGNED IN DAMASCUS LAST MONTH.

THE IRANIANS HAVE SAID THAT AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA, EGYPT AND THE SIX ARAB GULF STATES IS UNWORKABLE IF IRAN IS EXCLUDED.

VELAYATI HAS SAID IRAN WILL FORGE ITS OWN PACT WITH THE GULF STATES.

RAFSANJANI'S VISIT TO TURKEY IS EXPECTED TO CONCENTRATE ON BOOSTING TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO MUSLIM NEIGHBORS.

WHILE TURKEY HAS BEEN ANXIOUS TO PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN IRAN'S RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, LAUNCHED AFTER THE AUGUST 1988 CEASE-FIRE IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, THE IRANIANS ARE KEEN TO EXPORT NATURAL GAS TO EUROPE BY RUNNING A PIPELINE THROUGH TURKEY.

RAFSANJANI WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF THE IRAQI KURDISH REFUGEES WHO HAVE THRONGED TO IRAN AND TURKEY FOLLOWING THE CRACKDOWN BY IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN ON A KURDISH REBELLION IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

BOTH IRAN AND TURKEY HAVE BEEN CONCERNED THAT SADDAM'S RECENT DECISION TO GRANT AUTONOMY TO IRAQ'S 3.6 MILLION KURDS WILL INSPIRE SIMILAR DEMANDS FROM THEIR OWN LARGE KURDISH POPULATIONS.

IRAN'S GOOD TIES WITH TURKEY HAVE BEEN TARNISHED BY TEHRAN'S SUPPORT FOR ISLAMIC CAUSES IN TURKEY, AT A TIME WHEN ANKARA HAS BEEN ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN ITS SECULAR CONSTITUTION.

BUT RAFSANJANI'S VISIT, AND$TEHRAN'S NEWFOUND MODERATION, ARE EXPECTED TO PUT THOSE DIFFERENCES ASIDE.

#END
13186 29 04 91

SW

WRN55;
U I AE5068 INTJ 888 NAS NCK NDI
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH
NEW LEADER ELECTED FOR MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALIST HEZBOLLAH

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE IRANIAN-BACKED SHIITE MUSLIM HEZBOLLAH MOVEMENT HAS ELECTED A NEW LEADERSHIP HEADED BY SHEIK ABBAS MUSAWI, ACCORDING TO A PARTY STATEMENT ISSUED TUESDAY.

MUSAWI, A FUNDAMENTALIST MILITANT WITH A FLARE FOR FIERY ORATORY, WAS ELECTED AT A PARTY CONGRESS TO REPLACE SHEIK SUBHI TUFAILI AS GENERAL-SECRETARY, THE STATEMENT SAID.

THE STATEMENT DID NOT SAY WHEN OR WHERE THE CONGRESS WAS HELD, NOR DID IT RELEASE A FULL LIST OF THE LEADERSHIP. TUFAILI WAS GENERAL-SECRETARY FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS.

SOURCES CLOSE TO HEZBOLLAH, THE PARTY OF GOD, SAID MUSAWI HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR GUERRILLA OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL.

THE SOURCES, WHO INSISTED ON ANONYMITY, SAID IT WAS UNCLEAR WHAT IMPACT THE CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP COULD HAVE ON THE PLIGHT OF WESTERN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON.

HEZBOLLAH IS THE UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR EXTREMIST FACTIONS BELIEVED TO BE HOLDING MOST OF THE 13 WESTERNERS MISSING IN LEBANON.

THEY INCLUDE SIX AMERICANS, FOUR BRITONS, TWO GERMANS AND AN ITALIAN. THE LONGEST HELD IS AMERICAN JOURNALIST TERRY A. ANDERSON, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. HE WAS KIDNAPPED ON MARCH 16, 1985.

ONE SOURCE DESCRIBED MUSAWI AS ''A PRO-IRANIAN MILITANT BUT CLOSER TO SYRIA THAN TUFAILI.''

HE SAID SHEIK IBRAHIM AL-AMIN, A PRO-SYRIAN HEZBOLLAH ACTIVIST, WAS ELECTED BY THE CONGRESS AS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL, WHICH ALSO SUGGESTS THE PARTY MAY SEEK CLOSER TIES WITH SYRIA.

SYRIA IS THE MAIN POWER BROKER IN LEBANON. IT HAS 40,000 TROOPS STATIONED IN LEBANON UNDER A 1976 PEACEKEEPING MANDATE FROM THE ARAB LEAGUE.

THE SOURCE SUGGESTED THAT THE LEADERSHIP CHANGE ''PROBABLY HERALDS AN ESCALATION OF GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST ISRAEL IN SOUTH LEBANON.''

ISRAEL HAS MAINTAINED A ''SECURITY ZONE'' IN SOUTH LEBANON SINCE 1985, WHEN IT WITHDREW THE BULK OF ITS TROOPS AFTER A THREE-YEAR OCCUPATION. THE ZONE IS INTENDED TO BLOCK GUERRILLA INFILTRATIONS FROM LEBANON.
AENS (AN-DAY)

L0520 21 05 91

Hezbollah

6 children = wife from Deir Qanoun Nahr,

AR0288
A I NCB052 REPEAT INTJ 886 NAT NCH NCB
^LEBANON-MUSAWI PROFILE
^AS OFFER
^WITH LEBANON HOSTAGES
^NEW HEZBOLLAH LEADER DRIVEN BY HATRED OF ISRAEL
^BY MOHAMMED SALAM=
^ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER=

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE NEW LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH, A MAN WHO MAY BECOME A KEY FIGURE IN THE EFFORT TO RELEASE WESTERN HOSTAGES, IS A HARD-LINER COMMITTED TO RELENTLESS ATTACKS ON ISRAEL.

ABBAS MUSAWI, A 38-YEAR-OLD SHIITE MUSLIM CLERGYMAN FROM THE EAST LEBANON TOWN OF NABI SHEET, WAS SELECTED IN SECRET ELECTIONS MONDAY AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD.

MANY REPORTS SAY WESTERN HOSTAGES ARE HELD BY FACTIONS WITHIN HEZBOLLAH, ALTHOUGH MUSAWI REPEATED THE PARTY LINE IN AN INTERVIEW THURSDAY, INSISTING ''WE ARE NOT INVOLVED IN HOSTAGE-TAKING.''

SIX AMERICANS, FOUR BRITONS, TWO GERMANS AND AN ITALIAN ARE MISSING IN LEBANON. AMERICAN TERRY ANDERSON, 43, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, IS THE LONGEST-HELD WESTERN HOSTAGE. HE WAS KIDNAPPED MARCH 16, 1985.

ALTHOUGH MUSAWI IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, HE HAS EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO EXCHANGE PRISONERS WITH THE JEWISH STATE, A PROCESS ENTWINED WITH THE RELEASE OF WESTERN HOSTAGES.

MUSAWI IS LIKELY TO PLAY A PART IN REACHING ANY AGREEMENT. THE BEARDED HOLY MAN WEARS THE BLACK TURBAN INDICATING DESCENT FROM THE PROPHET MOHAMMED, ISLAM'S FOUNDER.

MUSAWI COMPLETED HIS SECONDARY STUDIES AT THE JAAFARI SHIITE SCHOOL IN THE SOUTHERN PORT CITY OF TYRE IN THE EARLY 1970S AND JOINED THE SHIITE THEOLOGY COLLEGE FOR HIGHER STUDIES IN THE IRAQI TOWN OF NAJAF.

THE MAN WHO WAS TO LEAD IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTION IN 1979, AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI, WAS TEACHING IN NAJAF AT THE TIME AND WAS A POWERFUL INFLUENCE ON THE CITY'S SHIITE THEOLOGIANS.

MUSAWI GRADUATED WITH THE EQUIVALENT OF A MASTERS DEGREE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES.

HEZBOLLAH HAS REFUSED TO RELEASE A DETAILED BIOGRAPHY OF ITS NEW LEADER.

MUSAWI'S HATRED FOR ISRAEL AND HIS SUPPORT OF LEBANESE MUSLIM AND LEFTIST FACTIONS APPARENTLY WERE BEHIND THE VOTE THAT UPGRADED HIM TO THE TOP DECISION-MAKING POST IN THE FUNDAMENTALIST HEZBOLLAH.

HE REPLACED SOBHI TUFAILI, WHO HAD LED HEZBOLLAH FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. UNDER TUFAILI, MUSAWI HAD DIRECTED HEZBOLLAH'S ISLAMIC RESISTANCE, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE CARRYING OUT GUERRILLA ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL.

''OUR MAIN MISSION AND OUR BASIC RELIGIOUS DUTY IS TO ACTIVATE AND STEP UP THE RESISTANCE TO CONFRONT THE ISRAELI ENEMY,'' MUSAWI SAID IN THE INTERVIEW THURSDAY.

ISRAEL, IN MUSAWI'S EYES, IS ''A CANCEROUS GERM. ITS MERE EXISTENCE POSES A LETHAL THREAT TO HUMANITY AS A WHOLE.''

MUSAWI WAS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL OF THE FLOOD OF SOVIET JEWISH IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE POURED INTO THE JEWISH STATE SINCE THE SOVIETS EASED EXIT RESTRICTIONS IN THE SPRING OF 1989.

''THE ISRAELI THREAT INCREASES DAY BY DAY,'' MUSAWI SAID. ''ISRAEL IS MILITARILY INVADING THE MUSLIMS' LANDS BY RECEIVING WAVES OF NEW IMMIGRANTS, ESPECIALLY FROM THE SOVIET UNION. THIS IS A MILITARY INVASION BECAUSE ALL THE IMMIGRANTS BECOME SOLDIERS.''

^MORE
1655Z 24 05 91

[illegible]

[illegible] ASHAT [illegible]

LEBANON-HIZBAH, [illegible] 1ST ADD

BEIRUT: [illegible]

HE INDICATED THAT HEZBOLLAH'S MISSION WAS NOT AIMED EXCLUSIVELY AT THE ISRAELI ''SECURITY ZONE,'' A 440 SQUARE MILE (1,100 SQUARE KILOMETER) AREA CARVED OUT OF SOUTH LEBANON IN 1985 TO PROTECT ITS BORDER FROM INFILTRATION.

ASKED WHAT HIS TARGET WAS, MUSAWI SAID: ''WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR LIBERATING ALL THE MUSLIMS' LANDS OCCUPIED BY THE ISRAELI ENEMY. WE CAN'T DO THAT ALONE, BUT OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO ATTACK THE ISRAELIS REPEATEDLY TO FORM AN INCENTIVE FOR OTHER MUSLIMS TO PLAY THEIR ROLE IN FIGHTING TH ENEMY.''

ASKED WHY A LEBANESE GROUP WOULD WANT TO LIBERATE PALESTINE[illegible]

M

I REPLIED WITH A FAINT SMILE: ''WHAT RELATIONSHIP DO THE AMERICANS, FRENCH AND OTHERS HAVE TO LIBERATING KUWAIT?''

HE ADDED: ''WE ARE CONVINCED THAT ISRAEL WAS FOUNDED IN PALESTINE TO BECOME THE GREATER ISRAEL BY USURPING ALL THE MUSLIMS' LANDS BETWEEN THE NILE AND EUPHRATES RIVERS.''

#END (HE-EAP-JR)

1537G 24 05 91

#2

RT059
U-IBX NCB076 03-08 00263
01 wat 888

Lebanon-Hezbollah

Hezbolllah Says It Hanged Kidnapper of Three Children

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - The pro-Iranian Hezbollah, or Party of God, said Wednesday it has hanged a man who kidnapped for ransom the three children of a wealthy Lebanese Sunni Moslem businessman in west Beirut last month.

A Hezbollah statement said the man who was hanged was blamed for a string of ransom kidnappings in west Beirut over the past three years.

''It has been clearly proven that Youssef Jawhar was the mastermind of most of the kidnapping and extortion operations,'' the statement said.

Hezbollah said Jawhar had kidnapped Dunia Ariss, 14, and her two brothers, Samer, 9, and Ramzi, 5, on June 14 as they were on their way to school in Moslem west Beirut.

The three children were released three days later after ''mediators'' from Hezbollah found them in suburban south Beirut and handed them over to the Syrian forces.

The kidnappers had asked a 3-million-dollar ransom from Zuhair Ariss, the father of the children, who owns a plush jewelry shop and a foreign exchange company in west Beirut.

Police refused to say whether a ransom was paid.

Although Hezbollah did not give Jawhar's affiliation in its official statement, a Hezbollah source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Jawhar was a Hezbollah member.

There have been numerous kidnappings involving members of wealthy families in west Beirut in the past three years. Most of the captives have been released and police said ransom was paid.

End

03/08/17-01G

Hezbollah
- Fadl. [illegible]
[illegible]

AR0396

U I NCB124 01 888 NAT

LEBANON-HIJACK, 2ND LD

URGENT

EDS: UPDATES WITH DESCRIPTION OF ANDERSON PHOTO

BY RODEINA KENAAN

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MOSLEM MILITANTS THREATENED SUNDAY TO KILL AMERICAN AND FRENCH HOSTAGES THEY HOLD IN LEBANON IF ANY ATTEMPT IS MADE TO STORM A HIJACKED KUWAITI JUMBO JET IN CYPRUS.

THE THREAT CAME IN A TYPEWRITTEN ARABIC-LANGUAGE STATEMENT DELIVERED AFTER NIGHTFALL TO THE BRITISH REUTERS NEWS AGENCY ALONG WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF AMERICAN CAPTIVE TERRY A. ANDERSON AND FRENCH JOURNALIST JEAN-PAUL KAUFFMANN.

ANDERSON'S POLAROID PICTURE WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE NINE PHOTOGRAPHS ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, HAD RELEASED OF HIM SINCE HE WAS KIDNAPPED MARCH 16, 1985.

IT SHOWED HIM FROM THE CHEST UP, WITH A BUSHY BEARD AND AN UNTRIMMED MOUSTACHE LOOKING STRAIGHT INTO THE CAMERA WITHOUT HIS SPECTACLES. HE WORE A COMMODORE HOTEL T-SHIRT.

IT WAS THE FIRST PICTURE SHOWING ANDERSON IN A T-SHIRT BEARING THE NAME OF THE DEVASTATED HOTEL THAT WAS ONCE THE HEADQUARTERS FOR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS COVERING THE MIDDLE EAST.

IT COULD NOT BE IMMEDIATELY DETERMINED WHETHER ANDERSON WORE THAT SHIRT ON THE DAY HE WAS KIDNAPPED.

KAUFFMANN'S PICTURE WAS A NEW ONE FROM AN OLD SEQUENCE. IT SHOWED HIM FROM THE WAIST UP WEARING A STRIPED SHIRT WITH HIS SPECTACLES IN A CHEST POCKET. HE ALSO HAD A SHABBY BEARD AND MOUSTACHE.

''TO THE, 3RD GRAF 1ST LD

END

2044E 10 04 88

RR0402

U I NCB125 01 888 NAT

LEBANON-HIJACK, 2ND LD, SUB

BEIRUT - TO CLARIFY THAT ANDERSON WAS WEARING T-SHIRT WHEN KIDNAPPED, SUB FOLLOWING FOR 6TH GRAF ''IT COULD ... KIDNAPPED.''

ANDERSON WAS WEARING ONE OF THE T-SHIRTS WHEN HE WAS KIDNAPPED.

KAUFFMANN'S, 5TH GRAF WND LD.

END

2055G 10 04 86

@@

RR0349
U I NCB103 01 688 NAT
LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST LD
URGENT

EDS: UPDATES WITH STATEMENT ACCOMPANIED BY ANDERSON, KAUFFMANN PHOTOS, ADDS BYLINE

BY RODEINA KENAAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MOSLEM MILITANTS THREATENED SUNDAY TO KILL AMERICAN AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IT HOLDS IN LEBANON IF ANY ATTEMPT IS MADE TO STORM A HIJACKED KUWAITI JUMBO JET IN CYPRUS.

THE THREAT CAME IN A TYPEWRITTEN ARABIC-LANGUAGE STATEMENT DELIVERED AFTER NIGHTFALL TO THE BRITISH REUTERS NEWS AGENCY ALONG WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF AMERICAN CAPTIVE TERRY A. ANDERSON AND FRENCH JOURNALIST JEAN-PAUL KAUFFMANN.

''TO THE FAMILIES OF THE HOSTAGES, WE DECLARE THAT WE SHALL EXECUTE THE WESTERN CAPTIVES IN LEBANON IF THE PLANE AND HOLY WARRIOR (HIJACKERS) ABOARD IS SUBJECTED TO ANY MILITARY FOOLHARDINESS,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

MORE

1907G 10 04 88

88

RR0370
U I NCB111 01 888 NAT
LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST LD-3RD ADD
BEIRUT; THE REGION.

ANDERSON, OF LORAIN, OHIO, IS THE LONGEST HELD AMONG THE 22 FOREIGNERS CURRENTLY KIDNAPPED IN LEBANON. HE WAS ABDUCTED IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT MARCH 16, 1985. SUTHERLAND WAS ABDUCTED JUNE 9, 1985.

ISLAMIC JIHAD ALSO HOLDS AT LEAST THREE FRENCHMEN, BUT HAS NOT DIRECTLY LINKED THEM WITH THEIR DEMAND FOR FREEING THE 17 MEN HELD IN KUWAIT.

APART FROM KAUFFMANN, 43, WHO WAS KIDNAPPED MAY 22, 1985, THEY ARE MARCEL FONTAINE, 47, VICE CONSUL AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY, KIDNAPPED MARCH 22, 1985, AND MARCEL CARTON, 64, THE EMBASSY'S PROTOCOL OFFICER WHO WAS KIDNAPPED SEPARATELY THE SAME DAY.

END

1947G 10 04 88

RR0368
U I NCB110 01 880 NAT
LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST LD-2ND ADD
BEIRUT: FREE THEM

ISLAMIC JIHAD HAS ALSO DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF THE 17 IN RETURN FOR FREEING THE TWO AMERICANS IT HOLDS: ANDERSON, 40, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; AND THOMAS SUTHERLAND, 56, ACTING DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT.

THE STATEMENT SAID THE HIJACKERS WERE UNDERTAKING A ''SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO FREE HOLY WARRIORS WHO SACRIFIED DEARLY AND WHO ARE SUFFERING TORTURE IN THE PRISON DUNGEONS OF THE OPPRESSIVE STATE OF KUWAIT.''

IT SAID THE 17 WERE JAILED FOR ''CONFRONTING THE CENTERS OF INTERNATIONAL ARROGANCE IN OUR ISLAMIC HOMELAND ALONG WITH REGIMES THAT SOLD THEMSELVES CHEAPLY TO THE SUPERPOWERS AND THEIR INTERESTS IN THE REGION.''

MORE

1946G 10 04 88

@@

RR0341
U I NC8096 01 888 NAT
LEBANON-HIJACK
URGENT
WITH LARNACA - KUWAIT-HIJACK
ISLAMIC JIHAD THREATENS KILL U.S., FRENCH HOSTAGES

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MOSLEM EXTREMISTS WARNED SUNDAY THEY WILL KILL AMERICAN AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IF ANY ATTEMPT IS MADE TO STORM A HIJACKED KUWAITI JETLINER IN CYPRUS.

THE THREAT BY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, WAS MADE IN A STATEMENT DELIVERED AFTER NIGHTFALL TO THE BRITISH REUTERS NEWS AGENCY IN WEST BEIRUT. IT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A PHOTOGRAPH OF ONE OF THE CAPTIVES.

MORE

1853G 10 04 88

@@

RR0361

U I NCB107 01 888 NAT

LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST LD-1ST ADD

BEIRUT: STATEMENT SAID.

IT WARNED THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT AGAINST ATTACKING THE HIJACKED KUWAIT AIRWAYS BOEING 747, WHICH LANDED AT LARNACA AIRPORT ON THE MEDITERRANEAN ISLAND'S SOUTH COAST FRIDAY.

''WE WARN THAT ANY FOOLHARDINESS COMMITTED AGAINST THE PLANE UNDER ANY PRETEXT OR COVER IN ANY FORM, THE CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES WILL BEAR THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENS ON ITS TERRITORY, WHICH WILL BRING HARM TO IT'S GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

IT DECLARED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE HIJACKERS' DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF 17 CONVICTED TERRORISTS, ALL BUT ONE OF THEM SHIITES, IMPRISONED IN KUWAIT FOR BOMBING THE U.S. AND FRENCH EMBASSIES IN DECEMBER 1983. KUWAIT REFUSES TO FREE THEM.

MORE

1933G 10 04 86

RR0341
U I NCR096 01 088 NAT
LEBANON-HIJACK
URGENT
WITH LARNACA - KUWAIT-HIJACK

ISLAMIC JIHAD THREATENS KILL U.S., FRENCH HOSTAGES

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MOSLEM EXTREMISTS WARNED SUNDAY THEY WILL KILL AMERICAN AND FRENCH HOSTAGES IF ANY ATTEMPT IS MADE TO STORM A HIJACKED KUWAITI JETLINER IN CYPRUS.

THE THREAT BY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, WAS MADE IN A STATEMENT DELIVERED AFTER NIGHTFALL TO THE BRITISH REUTERS NEWS AGENCY IN WEST BEIRUT. IT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A PHOTOGRAPH OF ONE OF THE CAPTIVES.

MORE

1053G 10 04 88

00

RR0361

U I NCB107 01 888 NAT

LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST LD-1ST ADD

BEIRUT: STATEMENT SAID.

IT WARNED THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT AGAINST ATTACKING THE HIJACKED KUWAIT AIRWAYS BOEING 747, WHICH LANDED AT LARNACA AIRPORT ON THE MEDITERRANEAN ISLAND'S SOUTH COAST FRIDAY.

''WE WARN THAT ANY FOOLHARDINESS COMMITTED AGAINST THE PLANE UNDER ANY PRETEXT OR COVER IN ANY FORM, THE CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES WILL BEAR THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENS ON ITS TERRITORY, WHICH WILL BRING HARM TO IT'S GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

IT DECLARED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE HIJACKERS' DEMAND FOR THE RELEASE OF 17 CONVICTED TERRORISTS, ALL BUT ONE OF THEM SHIITES, IMPRISONED IN KUWAIT FOR BOMBING THE U.S. AND FRENCH EMBASSIES IN DECEMBER 1983. KUWAIT REFUSES TO FREE THEM.

MORE

1933G 10 04 88

RR0346

U I NCB102 01 888 NAT

LEBANON-HIJACK, 1ST ADD

BEIRUT: THE STATEMENT.

THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES HELD BY ISLAMIC JIHAD ARE TERRY A. ANDERSON, 40, OF LORAIN, OHIO, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, AND THOMAS SUTHERLAND, 55, OF FORT COLLINS, COLORADO, ACTING DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT.

ANDERSON, KIDNAPPED IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT MARCH 16, 1985, IS THE LONGEST HELD HOSTAGES AMONG 22 FOREIGNERS CURRENTLY KIDNAPPED IN LEBANON. SUTHERLAND WAS KIDNAPPED JUNE 9, 1985.

ISLAMIC JIHAD ALSO HOLDS AT LEAST THREE FRENCHMEN.

THEY ARE MARCEL FONTAINE, 47, VICE CONSUL AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN BEIRUT WHO WAS KIDNAPPED MARCH 22, 1985- MARCEL CARTON, 64, THE EMBASSY'S PROTOCOL OFFICER, KIDNAPPED SEPARATELY THE SAME DAY- AND JOURNALIST JEAN-PAUL KAUFFMANN, 43, ABDUCTED MAY 22, 1985.

END

1904G 10 04 88

##

x Anti Abduction
x Hezbollah

RR0465
U I NC0073 01 NAT 699
LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH
WITH ISRAEL-UNREST

PRO-IRANIAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THOUSANDS OF PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MOSLEMS DEMONSTRATED IN BEIRUT AND EAST LEBANON TUESDAY TO DISPLAY SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS RIOTING IN THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP.

THE MARCHES IN THE SHIITE SLUMS OF SOUTH BEIRUT AND IN EAST LEBANON'S ANCIENT CITY OF BAALBEK WERE ORGANIZED BY THE IRANIAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL BY THE ISLAMIC JIHAD SQUADS IN PALESTINE, A GROUP BELIEVED TO BE MADE UP OF PALESTINIAN MOSLEM FUNDAMENATLISTS.

THE GROUP HAD CALLED FOR DEMONSTRATIONS TUESDAY IN SUPPORT OF PALESTIAN YOUTHS CLASHING WITH ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA.

THE DATE COINCIDED WITH THE ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS FEAST OF AL-ISRAA WAL-MERAJ COMMEMORATING PROPHET MOHAMMED'S ASCENDANCE TO HEAVEN ON A WINGED HORSE FROM JERUSALEM'S DOME OF THE ROCK 14 CENTURIES AGO.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR AHMAD DASTMALCHIAN PARTICIPATED IN THE BEIRUT DEMONSTRATION.

SOME 10,000 DEMONSTRATORS, INCLUDING WOMEN COVERED IN HEAD-TO-TOE BLACK CHADORS, MARCHED THROUGH THE STREETS OF BAALBEK CHANTING: ''DEATH TO AMERICA ... DEATH TO ISRAEL.''

BAALBEK IS A HEZBOLLAH STRONGHOLD AND A BASE FOR AN ESTIMATED 3,000 IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS DISPATCHED TO DURING ISRAEL'S 1982 INVASION.

ABOUT 3,000 HEZBOLLAHIS DEMONSTRATED AT SOUTH BEIRUT'S BIR EL-ABED DISTRICT, WAVING PLACARDS THAT READ: ''WE SHALL FIGHT AMERICA TO THE LAST DROP OF OUR BLOOD.''

CHILDREN DRAGGED THE AMERICAN AND ISRAELI FLAGS WHILE OTHERS TRAMPLED ON THEM.

''DEATH TO AMERICA ... DEATH TO RUSSIA ... DEATH TO FRANCE,'' SHOUTED THE PROTESTORS AS THEY MARCHED THROUGH THE DISTRICT, WHERE MANY OF THE 22 FOREIGN HOSTAGES KIDNAPPED IN LEBANON SINCE 1985 ARE BELIEVED TO BE HELD.

END
2024G 15 03 88

GN

RR0325
U I FK221 REPEAT 288 888
SWITZERLAND-HIJACK
HIGHEST COURT TO TRY LEBANESE HIJACKER

BERN, SWITZERLAND (AP) - A LEBANESE MAN JAILED IN SWITZERLAND FOR HIJACKING AN AIR AFRIQUE JETLINER TO GENEVA AND KILLING A FRENCH PASSENGER LAST JULY IS TO BE TRIED BY THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST COURT, THE GOVERNMENT SAID MONDAY.

SWITZERLAND'S SEVEN-MEMBER EXECUTIVE TOLD A FEDERAL INVESTIGATING JUDGE TO BEGIN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HUSSEIN ALI MOHAMMED HARIRI, 21, A SHIITE MOSLEM SAID BY SWISS AUTHORITIES TO HAVE ACTED ON BEHALF OF THE PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD. NO DATE WAS IMMEDIATELY SET FOR THE TRIAL AT THE SWISS FEDERAL TRIBUNAL'S CRIMINAL COURT, WHOSE DECISIONS CANNOT BE APPEALED.

HARIRI FACES LIFE IMPRISONMENT IF CONVICTED OF MURDER OR HOSTAGE-TAKING ALONE. HE ALSO WILL BE CHARGED FOR SHOOTING IN THE STOMACH A CONGOLESE PLANE STEWARD WHO OVERPOWERED HIM AND FOR CARRYING AN EXPLOSIVES BELT ONTO THE AIRCRAFT.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT CITED THE POLITICAL NATURE OF PLANE HIJACKING AND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ALLEGED OFFENSES IN HANDING THE CASE TO THE SUPREME COURT RATHER THAN GENEVA AUTHORITIES.

THE TRIAL WILL SEE THE FIRST APPLICATION OF A 1982 SWISS LAW AGAINST HOSTAGE-TAKING.

IN ITS LAST CRIMINAL CASE, THE FEDERAL TRIBUNAL SENTENCED FOUR EXILED POLES SENTENCED TO JAIL TERMS IN 1983 FOR STORMING THE POLISH EMBASSY IN BERN AND TAKING 17 HOSTAGES THE YEAR BEFORE.

MORE
1730G 05 10 87

88

RR0308
R I FK223   288 888
BERN - SWITZERLAND-HIJACK 2

THE AIR AFRIQUE DC-10 WITH 166 PASSENGERS ABOARD WAS HIJACKED TO GENEVA AIRPORT JULY 24 ON A FLIGHT FROM BANGUI; CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC; TO PARIS. HARIRI REPORTEDLY MADE SEVERAL POLITICAL DEMANDS; INCLUDING FREEDOM FOR THE HAMADI BROTHERS; TWO LEBANESE TERROR SUSPECTS HELD IN WEST GERMANY.

SHORTLY AFTER SHOOTING A MALE FRENCH PASSENGER; THE HIJACKER WAS OVERPOWERED BY CREW MEMBERS. MEANWHILE; PASSENGERS OPENED DOORS AND FLED WHILE POLICE STORMED THE PLANE AND ARRESTED HARIRI.

END/TC
1657G 05 10 87

French Hostages
Hezbollah

ZCZC H510
U NCM-BTM
.NCM-BTM
MSGªª NICOSIA
HEZBOLLAH-FRANCE
HEZBOLLAHªS NEWSPAPER THREATENS FRANCE

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE IRANIAN-BACKED SHIITE MOSLEM HEZBOLLAH MILITANT FACTION ACCUSED FRENCH AMBASSADOR PAUL BLANC OF RUNNING ªªA NEST OF SPIESªª AT HIS BEIRUT EMBASSY.

THE CHARGE CAME IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY AL-AAHD WEEKLY CRITICIZING BLANC FOR DESCRIBING RECENT ANTI-FRANCE DEMONSTRATIONS STAGED BY HEZBOLLAH IN BEIRUT AND EAST LEBANON AS ªªUNPLASANT AND DISAGREEABLE.ªª

ªªIF A MERE DEMONSTRATION HAS BOTHERED THE AMBASSAFDOR, THEN WHAT WOULD HE SAY WHEN A GRAVER ACTION HAPPENS,ªª THE ARTICLE SAID, WITHOUT ELABORATION.

NO ONE WAS AVAILABLE AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY TO COMMENT ON THE ARTICLE.

END
NNNN
S 31JUL87

6LGL
BEY0023 4
E BAD
Liban-France-Iran
Le Hezbollah se d{chaine contre l'ambassadeur de France au Liban

BEYROUTH, 31 juil (AFP) - L'organe des int{gristes chiites pro-iraniens du Hezbollah, Al Aahad, s'est d{chain{ vendredi contre l'ambassadeur de France au Liban, M. Paul Blanc, qui avait qualifi{ de "d{sagr{able et d{plaisante" la manifestation anti-fran\aise organis{e par le Hezbollah le 24 juillet dans la banlieue chiite de Beyrouth.

Dans un article satirique, l'hebdomadaire du Hezbollah se d{clare "satisfai par le fait que le haut-commissaire fran\ais, qui dirige un antre d'espionnage se soit d{clar{ gÖn{ par la manifestation de milliers de musulmans", et estime qu'il s'agit d'une preuve "que la manifestation a accompli l'un de ses buts".

Se comm{morant l'un des dirigeants chiites de la r{volte anti-fran\aise de 1926 au Liban, cheikh Abdel Hussein Charafeddine, l'auteur de l'article regrette que le dignitaire religieux n'ait pas pu "voir ce jour o| les fran\ai n'osent pas s'approcher des r{gions lib{r{es par ses descendants et ses h{ritiers spirituels, o| alors le font apeur{s, craignant ceux qu'ils ont un jour opprim{s".

"Si une telle manifestation le gÖne et l'indispose, que dira-t-il lorsque s produiront les nouveaux d{veloppements, qui seront graves", conclut l'article.
at/
ODED
010553 JAN 82

S 31JUL87

2

* Iran in Hostages
* Hezbollah
* Iran - France

AA0257

U I NCB052 01 NAT 000

HEZBOLLAH-FRANCE

WITH PARIS - FRANCE-IRAN AND NICOSIA - IRAN-FRANCE

HEZBOLLAH SAYS FRANCE'S RUPTURE OF TIES 'HORRIFIC MISTAKE'

BY RODEINA KENAAN

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH SHIITE MOSLEM FACTION SAID SATURDAY MOSLEMS AROUND THE WORLD WOULD RALLY BEHIND IRAN TO CONFRONT FRANCE'S DECISION TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THE TEHRAN GOVERNMENT.

''THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS COMMITTED A HORRIFIC MISTAKE BY PUSHING THE CRISIS WITH IRAN TO THE POINT OF BREAKING TIES BETWEEN PARIS AND TEHRAN,'' A HEZBOLLAH STATEMENT SAID IN BEIRUT.

''AT ANY RATE, THIS IS NOT MERELY A RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC TIES BUT PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL ARROGANT SCHEME HATCHED BY AMERICA AND THE ZIONIST LOBBY TO DESTROY THE ISLAMIC SPIRIT GENERATED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY THE VICTORY OF THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION IN IRAN,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

''IRAN WILL NOT BE ALONE IN CONFRONTING THIS AGGRESSIVE SCHEME. THE UNIVERSE WILL SEE ALL MOSLEMS UNITED IN ONE RANK AWAITING ORDERS FROM IMAM (AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH) KHOMEINI TO DEFEND ISLAM,'' THE STATEMENT ADDED.

IT CAME A DAY AFTER FRANCE AND IRAN SEVERED TIES AND BLOCKADED EACH OTHER'S EMBASSIES.

HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IS AN UMBRELLA OF SHIITE EXTREMIST GROUPS IN LEBANON BELIEVED HOLDING MOST OF THE 26 FOREIGNERS MISSING OR KIDNAPPED IN LEBANON SINCE MARCH 1985.

TELEPHONE CALLS MADE IN THE NAME OF ONE OF THESE GROUPS, ISLAMIC JIHAD, SAID ON FRIDAY TWO FRENCH HOSTAGES HELD BY THE FACTION WOULD BE KILLED ''IMMEDIATELY'' BECAUSE OF THE FRENCH DECISION TO BREAK TIES WITH IRAN.

MORE

1554G 18 07 87

GG

0293

U I NCB053 01 NAT 088

BEIRUT- HEZBOLLAH-FRANCE 2

THE CALLS MADE TO TWO WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT IDENTIFIED THE HOSTAGES AS MARCEL CARTON, 63, PROTOCOL OFFICER OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY, AND MARCEL FONTAINE, 46, THE VICE CONSUL.

THEY WERE SEPARATELY ABDUCTED MARCH 22, 1985.

ANOTHER PRO-IRANIAN MOSLEM GROUP, THE LEAGUE OF MOSLEM ULEMAS, ISSUED A STATEMENT IN BEIRUT SATURDAY SAYING FRANCE HAS ''CLASSIFIED ITSELF IN THE CATEGORY OF ISLAM'S ENEMIES'' BY CUTTING TIES WITH IRAN.

''ALL FRENCH EMBASSIES AND INTERESTS ARE HENCEFORTH THREATENED ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD BECAUSE IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL MOSLEMS TO COMBAT FRANCE,'' THE STATEMENT SAID.

THE SMALL GROUP IS MADE UP OF SHIITE AND SUNNI MOSLEM CLERICS LOYAL TO KHOMEINI. BUT IT DOES NOT MAINTAIN A MILITIA AND HAD NEVER BEEN ACTIVE IN LEBANON'S TURBULENCE.

END

1556G 18 07 87

88

RR0367

U I NCB076 01 888 NAT

2ND LEBANON-DYNAMITE

EDS: HEZBOLLAH OFFICIAL LOSES LEGS IN CAR BOMBING, MORE DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS IN BEIRUT

BY MOHAMMED SALAM

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - A LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH, A PRO-IRANIAN RADICAL GROUP LINKED TO THE KIDNAPPING OF FOREIGNERS IN LEBANON, LOST BOTH LEGS IN CAR BOMBING IN THE SOUTHERN PORT CITY OF SIDON WEDNESDAY, POLICE STATEMENT SAID.

THE STATEMENT SAID THE BOMB WAS PLANTED IN DR. IBRAHIM ATWI'S CAR. IT BLEW UP AT 11 A.M. (0800 GMT) AS ATWI, A DIRECTOR AT SIDON'S GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, TRIED TO START THE ENGINE.

REPORTERS IN SIDON, 25 MILES (40 KILOMETERS) SOUTH OF BEIRUT, SAID ATWI, A SHIITE MOSLEM, UNDERWENT SURGERY AT THE HOSPITAL, BUT SOURCES SAID HIS CONDITION REMAINED CRITICAL.

ATWI, IN HIS EARLY 50S, IS LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH, PARTY OF GOD, IN GHAZIYEH, A SUBURB EAST OF SIDON.

THE ATTACK CAME THREE DAYS AFTER A BOMB EXPLODED IN THE CAR OF AN IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS OFFICER, KILLING HIS IRANIAN DRIVER. SHEIKH HAMID SADEKI WAS NOT IN THE CAR WHEN IT EXPLODED IN THE SOUTHERN CITY OF TYRE, 25 MILES (40 KILOMETERS) SOUTH OF SIDON, SUNDAY.

HEZBOLLAH IS MADE UP OF SHIITE ZEALOTS LOYAL TO IRAN'S AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI. THESE MILITANTS WERE TRAINED AND ARMED BY A 1,000-STRONG CONTINGENT OF REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS THAT CAME TO LEBANON IN 1982 TO HELP FIGHT AGAINST ISRAEL'S INVASION AND STAYED ON.

WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND LEFTIST LEBANESE OFFICIALS HAVE CHARGED HEZBOLLAH IS AN UMBRELLA FOR SHADOWY GROUPS THAT ARE HOLDING AT FOREIGNERS, INCLUDING EIGHT AMERICANS, HOSTAGE.

THEIR DEMANDS RANGE FROM THE RELEASE OD COMRADES JAILED IN EUROPE OR CONSERVATIVE ARAB GOVERNMENT TO A CHANGE IN POLICIES TOWARD IRAN.

MORE

1908G 27 05 87

aa

RR0368

U I NCB077 01 388 NAT

BEIRUT - 2ND LEAD LEBANON-DYNAMITE <NL> 2

THERE ARE 24 FOREIGNERS PLUS ANGLICAN CHURCH ENVOY TERRY WAITE MISSING AND BELIEVED KIDNAPPED IN LEBANON.

THE TWO CAR BOMBINGS CAME AMID MOUNTING TENSIONS BETWEEN HEZBOLLAH AND THE PRO-SYRIAN MAINSTREAM SHIITE AMAL MILITIA OF JUSTICE MINISTER NABIH BERRI.

HEZBOLLAH HAS BEEN TRYING TO EXPAND IT INFLUENCE TO AREAS IN SOUTH LEBANON THAT HAVE BEEN TRADITIONAL AMAL STRONGHOLDS.

LOCAL REPORTERS IN SOUTH LEBANON SAY SEVERAL IRANIAN GUARDS HAVE BEEN RECENTLY SEEN TOURING VILLAGES OF THE REGION AND CALLING ON THE POPULATION TO JOIN HEZBOLLAH IN FIGHTING ISRAEL.

MEANWHILE, STICKS OF DYNAMITES BLEW UP IN GARBAGE DUMPS IN SYRIAN-POLICED WEST BEIRUT, POLICE REPORTED.

ONE CHARGE WENT OFF AT A CORNER ON HAMRA STREET, WEST BEIRUT'S MAIN COMMERCIAL THOROUGHFARE. PEOPLE GATHERED TO INSPECT THE DAMAGE AND A SECOND STICK EXPLODED IN THE SAME PLACE, WOUNDING SIX PEOPLE, A POLICE STATEMENT SAID.

THE EXPLOSIONS RAISED TO 121 THE NUMBER OF SUCH ATTACKS SINCE THE DEPLOYMENT OF 7,500 SYRIAN COMMANDOS IN BEIRUT'S MOSLEM SECTOR FEB. 22 TO END MILITIA ANARCHY.

SYRIA, THE MAIN POWER BROKER IN LEBANON, ALSO MAINTAINS 25,000 TROOPS IN EASTERN AND NORTHERN PROVINCES UNDER A 1976 PEACEKEEPING MANDATE FROM THE 22-NATION ARAB LEAGUE.

END

1910G 27 05 87

88

Hezbollah

* Lebanon - Libya.

RR0169

U I NCB014 01 NAT REM 888

LEBANON-LIBYA

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - LIBYAN LEADER COL. MOAMMAR GADHAFI HAS ATTACKED THE IRANIAN-BACKED SHIITE MOSLEM GROUP HEZBOLLAH AND ACCUSED IT OF TERRORISM, A NEWSPAPER REPORTED WEDNESDAY.

''WE SUPPORT HEZBOLLAH IF IT CALLS FOR MARTYRDOM ON PALESTINIAN SOIL. BUT IF LEBANON IS THE TARGET, THEN THIS IS TERRORISM,'' GADHAFI TOLD THE DAILY NEWSPAPER AN-NIDA.

THE PAPER, ORGAN OF THE MOSCOW-ORIENTED LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTY, SAID THE LIBYAN LEADER MADE THE REMARK IN AN INTERVIEW TUESDAY IN TRIPOLI, LIBYA, WITH SEVEN ARAB JOURNALISTS, INCLUDING ITS CORRESPONDENT.

HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, ADVOCATES THE CREATION OF AN ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN LEBANON MODELED AFTER AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI'S IRAN.

GADHAFI, WHO SUPPORTS PERSIAN IRAN AGAINST ARAB IRAQ IN THE 6 1-2 YEAR-OLD GULF WAR, SAID HEZBOLLAH'S CALL FOR AN ISLAMIC STATE ''MEANS DESTROYING HALF OF LEBANON.''

LEBANON HAS A MIXED CHRISTIAN-MOSLEM POPULATION OF 4 MILLION PEOPLE.

''JIHAD IN LEBANON AGAINST WHOM?'' GADHAFI ASKED, USING THE ARABIC WORD FOR HOLY WAR. ''HE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF HEZBOLLAH, IS HE A MEMBER OF THE PARTY OF SATAN? THIS IS TERRORISM AND FOOLISHNESS.''

HOWEVER, THE LIBYAN LEADER DECLARED SUPPORT TO HOLY WAR IF IT WERE TARGETED AGAINST ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES.

GADHAFI DESCRIBED SYRIA AS ''THE STRONG SIDE IN LEBANON'' IN CONTRAST WITH A RECENT STATEMENT BY IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALI AKBAR VELAYATI, WHO SAID NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD HAS MORE INFLURNCE IN LEBANON THAN IRAN.

MORE

1021G 11 03 87

RR0170
U I NCB017 01 NAT REM 888
BEIRUT - LEBANON-LIBYA 2

SYRIA IS THE MAIN POWER BROKER IN LEBANON. IT MAINTAINS 25,000 TROOPS IN EAST AND NORTH LEBANON UNDER A 1976 PEACEKEEPING MANDATE FROM THE 21-NATION ARAB LEAGUE.

SYRIA LAST FEB. 22 DISPATCHED 7,500 TROOPS BACKED BY 100 TANKS TO MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT TO QUELL WEEK-LONG FACTIONAL CLASHES THAT KILLED 300 PEOPLE AND WOUNDED 1,300.

THE SYRIAN TROOPS HAVE SINCE CLOSED DOWN ALL 75 MILITIA CENTERS IN WEST BEIRUT AND KILLED 33 DEFIANT MILITIAMEN, INCLUDING 23 MEMBERS OF HEZBOLLAH.

HEZBOLLAH LEADERS HAVE DECLARED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE SYRIAN PEACE PLAN IN WEST BEIRUT, SAYING IT WAS TARGETED AGAINST THE ISLAMIC MOVEMENT.

HEZBOLLAH HAS BEEN LINKED TO THE KIDNAPPING OF 26 FOREIGNERS IN LEBANON, INCLUDING EIGHT AMERICANS.

THE FACTION, HOWEVER, HAS DENIED IT WAS HOLDING ANY FOREIGNER.

END

1022G 11 03 87

00

+ Leb - France.

+ leb susp. indic + accused
in terr. acts outside Leb

+ Hezbollah.

RR0075

[illegible]

LEBANON FRANCE HEZBOLLAH

HEZBOLLAH DENIES IT IS LINKED WITH LEBANESE SUSPECT

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE PRO-IRANIAN LEBANESE FACTION HEZBOLLAH DENIED ON FRIDAY THAT IT HAD ANY CONNECTION WITH MOHAMED MOUHAJER, A LEBANESE ARRESTED IN FRANCE ON TERRORISM CHARGES.

THE GROUP, WHOSE NAME MEANS PARTY OF GOD, ALSO WARNED FRANCE AGAINST ''AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS'' TOWARD MOSLEMS.

HEZBOLLAH, IN A STATEMENT RELEASED TO THE INDEPENDENT BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AN-NAHAR, SAID MOUHAJER HAD BEEN IN PARIS FOR ''A VERY LONG TIME,'' SINCE BEFORE THE 1982 ISRAELI INVASION OF LEBANON.

IT SAID MOUJAHER ''HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SO-CALLED 'FOUNDER OF HEZBOLLAH.'''

FRANCE ARRESTED EIGHT PEOPLE LAST WEEKEND, INCLUDING MOUJAHER. THEY WERE CHARGED THURSDAY WITH CRIMINAL ASSOCIATION AND WITH POSSESSING ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES FOR USE IN A TERRORIST ATTACK.

SEVERAL PARIS NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THAT 30-YEAR-OLD MOUJAHER WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF HEZBOLLAH. THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION AND SECURITY SOURCES TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN PARIS THAT FRENCH POLICE HAD NOT ESTABLISHED A DIRECT CONNECTION WITH HEZBOLLAH.

''WE WARN THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES AGAINST THEIR AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS ON MOSLEMS,'' THE HEZBOLLAH STATEMENT SAID. ''WE SEE THAT SQUEEZING HEZBOLLAH'S NAME IS A SIGN OF BLACKMAIL SOUGHT BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO TAKE MOSLEM HOSTAGES BY LIES AND CALUMNY.''

THE SHIITE GROUP SAID MOUHAJER ''IS THE SON OF ONE OF OUR MOSLEM PEOPLE IN LEBANON. HE IS THE SON OF SHEIK HABIB ALI IBRAHIM (MOUHAJER), A HIGH SHIITE DIGNITARY.''

''WE SHALL BE WAITING FOR YOU (FRENCH AUTHORITIES) FOR ANY STUPIDITY THAT WILL FORCE OUR PEOPLE TO DEFEND ITS JUST CAUSES AND EXISTENCE IN THE APPROPRIATE WAYS AND METHODS,'' THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED.

END

1726G 27 03 87

✓ Hezbollah
[illegible] Release

RR0377

U I NCB055 01 888 NAT

IRAN-HEZBOLLAH

IRANIANS PROTEST SYRIAN KILLING OF HEZBOLLAH GUNMEN IN LEBANON

BY SCHEHEREZADE FARAMARZI
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NICOSIA, CYPRUS (AP) - HUNDREDS OF IRANIANS STAGED A PROTEST MARCH MONDAY IN THE HOLY CITY OF QOM CONDEMNING THE KILLING OF 23 PRO-IRANIAN LEBANESE GUNMEN BY SYRIAN TROOPS, IRANIAN TELEVISION REPORTED.

SYRIA IS IRAN'S MAIN ARAB ALLY IN THE 6 1-2-YEAR-OLD WAR WITH IRAQ. THE KILLING OF THE HEZBOLLAH GUNMEN THREATENS A DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH COULD ALSO HAVE REPERCUSSIONS IN LEBANON.

IRAN HAS SO FAR NOT BLAMED THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT DIRECTLY FOR THE KILLING. SYRIA'S SUPPORT FOR IRAN AGAINST IRAQ IS VITAL FOR AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI'S CLERGY-LED MOSLEM GOVERNMENT.

BUT IRAN'S STATE-RUN TV, MONITORED IN NICOSIA, DESCRIBED LAST WEEK'S KILLING AS ''A PAINFUL MASSACRE INSTIGATED BY WORLD ARROGANCE.''

IT SHOWED AT QOM, A SEAT OF IRAN'S RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP, DEMONSTRATORS BEATING THEIR HANDS AGAINST THEIR CHESTS - A SHIITE MOSLEM GESTURE FOR MOURNING. THE MARCHERS ALSO READ VERSES FROM THE KORAN, ISLAM'S HOLY BOOK.

TWENTY-THREE MILITIAMEN FROM HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, WERE KILLED IN A CONFRONTATION WITH SYRIAN SOLDIERS IN WEST BEIRUT LAST TUESDAY, TWO DAYS AFTER 7,500 SYRIAN TROOPS WERE DISPATCHED INTO THE MOSLEM SECTOR OF THE LEBANESE CAPITAL TO RESTORE ORDER.

HEZBOLLAH, WHICH RECEIVES FINANCIAL AND MORAL AID FROM IRAN, HAS BECOME A POWERFUL FORCE IN MILITIA-RULED BEIRUT AND SOUTHERN LEBANON IN RECENT YEARS, GIVING IRAN SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE IN LEBANESE POLITICS.

MOST OF 26 FOREIGN HOSTAGES, INCLUDING FIVE AMERICANS, NOW CAPTIVE IN LEBANON ARE BELIEVED TO BE HELD BY MEMBERS OF HEZBOLLAH. IRAN HAS OFFERED TO HELP SECURE THE RELEASE OF AMERICAN HOSTAGES IF THE UNITED STATES RETURNS ITS ASSETS, FROZEN SINCE 1979.

MORE

1849G 02 03 87

88

RR0378

U I NCB057 01 888 NAT

NICOSIA - IRAN-HEZBOLLAH 2

SOURCES IN IRAN, WITH CLOSE TIES TO THE GOVERNMENT, SAID THE SYRIAN DISPATCH OF TROOPS INTO WEST BEIRUT WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE ANGERED THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT.

THE SOURCES, WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED FURTHER, SAID THE IRANIANS ARE NOT SURE HOW TO DEAL WITH THE LEBANON DEVELOPMENT FOR FEAR OF AGGRAVATING TIES WITH SYRIA.

SHORTLY AFTER SYRIAN TROOPS WENT INTO BEIRUT, IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALI AKBAR VELAYATI HELD URGENT TALKS IN DAMASCUS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD. THE SOURCES SAID ASSAD TOLD VELAYATI TO LEAVE THE HOSTAGE QUESTION TO THE SYRIANS.

ON SUNDAY, KHOMEINI'S DESIGNATED SUCCESSOR AYATOLLAH HUSSEIN ALI MONTAZERI, SIGNALLED CONTINUING DISAGREEMENT WITH ASSAD'S GOVERNMENT BY CALLING FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF HEZBOLLAH IN LEBANON.

HE ALSO ASKED FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF THE PERPETRATORS OF ''THIS GHASTLY CRIME.''

THE QOM DEMONSTRATORS CALLED ON SYRIA TO ''IDENTIFY AND PUNISH ELEMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING AND BE VIGILANT AGAINST THE PLOTS OF GLOBAL ARROGANCE.''

THE PROTESTERS CARRIED BLACK FLAGS AS A SIGN OF MOURNING AND ALSO GREEN ISLAMIC BANNERS.

A STATEMENT BY CLERGYMEN QUOTED BY IRAN'S ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY SAID:

''IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT AT A TIME WHEN ALL THE BULLETS SHOULD BE AIMED AT THE ZIONIST REGIME AND ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED AGAINST ENEMIES OF ISLAM, THEY WERE AIMED AT HEZBOLLAH, THE DEFENDERS OF ISLAM AND KORAN.''

END

1852G 02 03 87

Syria. Ira
✓ Hezbollah

RR0482

U I NC0079 04 000 LAT

SYRIA-IRAN

WITH BEIRUT - LEBANON-VIOLENCE

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN DAMASCUS FOR LEBANON TALKS

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER, ALI AKBAR VELAYATI, AND REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS MINISTER MOHSEN RAFIQ-DOUST ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS MONDAY NIGHT FOR TALKS ON SYRIA'S INTERVENTION IN LEBANON, OFFICIAL SOURCES REPORTED.

THE IRANIAN LEADERS, MAKING A ONE-DAY VISIT, WERE MET AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT BY SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA AND IRANIAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS.

SYRIA'S MILITARY INTERVENTION IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT SUNDAY WAS AIMED AT QUELLING FIGHTING BY RIVAL MOSLEM MILITIAS.

BUT THE IRANIANS HAVE A GROWING INFLUENCE IN LEBANON, WHERE THE MILITANT TEHRAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IS A GROWING CHALLENGE TO THE SYRIANS WHO HAVE LONG BEEN THE MAIN POWER BROKERS IN LEBANON.

HEZBOLLAH FIGHTERS HAVE CLASHED SEVERAL TIMES WITH SYRIAN TROOPS OR SYRIAN-BACKED MILITIAS IN LEBANON IN RECENT MONTHS.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, WHO SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY, SAID THE LEBANESE CRISIS AND SYRIA'S FIRST SERIOUS MILITARY INTERVENTION IN BEIRUT SINCE ITS ARMY WAS FORCED OUT IN 1982 BY ISRAEL'S INVASION WILL BE A MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION BY THE IRANIANS.

BRIG. GEN. GHAZI KENAAN, SYRIA'S MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CHIEF IN LLEBANON, DECLARED EARLIER MONDAY THAT HIS 4,000-MAN TANK-LED FORCE HAS NO PLANS TO MOVE INTO BEIRUT'S SHIITE MOSLEM SOUTHERN SUBURBS, A HEZBOLLAH STRONGHOLD.

IRAN'S OFFICIAL ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, MONITORED IN NICOSIA, QUOTED VELAYATI AS SAYING BEFORE HE LEFT TEHRAN FOR DAMASCUS HE WILL ALSO DISCUSS OTHER MIDDLE EAST ISSUES, INCLUDING IRAN'S 6-YEAR-OLD WAR WITH IRAQ.

MORE

2228G 23 02 87

88

RR0484

U I MCD003 01 305 MCT

DAMASCUS - SYRIA-IRAN 2

SYRIA IS IRAN'S MAIN ARAB ALLY AND HAS LONG BEEN AT ODDS WITH IRAQ. SYRIA AND IRAQ ARE GOVERNED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.

BAGHDAD'S AL-THAWRA DAILY, MOUTHPIECE OF IRAQ'S BAATH PARTY, DENOUNCED SYRIA'S DESPATCH OF 4,000 TROOPS INTO WEST BEIRUT AND SAID ''THE SYRIANS ARE BEHAVING AS IF LEBANON IS A SYRIAN PROVINCE AND NOT AN INDEPENDENT, SOVEREIGN STATE.

''THE SYRIAN REGIME IS USING FORCE TO CHANGE THE POLITICAL MAP IN AN ARAB COUNTRY IN VIOLATION OF ITS COMMITMENTS TO ARAB CHARTERS.''

BUT SYRIA'S GOVERNMENT-RUN AL-BAATH DAILY DECLARED THAT SYRIAN FORCES WERE SENT INTO BEIRUT ''TO SAVE ITS PEOPLE FROM THEIR PAINFUL TRAGEDY.''

THE STATE-RUN DAMASCUS RADIO COMMENTED: ''SYRIA HAS NO AMBITIONS IN LEBANON WHATSOEVER. THE MAIN GOAL IS TO CONSOLIDATE LEBANON'S INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY.''

VELAYATI, WHO RECENTLY VISITED MOSCOW, SYRIA'S MAIN ARMS SUPPLIER, SAID IRAN'S RELATIONS WITH SYRIA ARE ''EXCELLENT.''

BUT HE SAID, WITHOUT ELABORATION, THAT LEADERS OF BOTH COUNTRIES ''HAVE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS NOW AND THEN.''

IRNA QUOTED VELAYATA AS SAYING THAT ''TEHRAN-DAMASCUS TIES ARE THE KEY TO DETERMINING FACTORS IN THE REGION.

''NO IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT OCCURS IN THIS REGION WITHOUT AFFECTING IRAN AND SYRIA.''

END

2234G ,23 02 87

RR0333

U I H531 FKM NCM BTM

MSG== FRANKFURT

GERMAN SERVICE FT193

HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IS REGARDED AS THE ''FOREIGN OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT'' FOR THE DAWA, OR MESSAGE, SHIITE MOSLEM PARTY WHICH WAS CRUSHED IN IRAQ EARLY IN 1980.

THE DAWA PARTY FOUNDER, MOHAMMED BAKER AL-SADR, WAS EXECUTED BY THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES FOR ATTEMPTING TO CRUSH THE SECULAR REGIME OF PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN TO CREATE AN ISLAMIC STATE MODELED AFTER THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRANIAN PATRIARCH AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI.

THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES IN MID-1980 DEPORTED TO IRAN AT LEAST 100,000 SHIITE IRAQIS FOR ALLEGEDLY SUPPORTING DAWA.

THE DEPORTEES REORGANIZED THEIR RANKS IN IRAN SHORTLY AFTER OUTBREAK OF THE GULF WAR WITH IRAQ IN SEPTEMBER 1980 AND FORMED HEZBOLLAH.

THE PARTY ''DECENTRALIZED'' AND SET UP REGIONAL COMMANDS IN SYRIA AND LEBANON.

IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS CORPS ALSO OPERATES UNDER HEZBOLLAH BANNER OUTSIDE IRAN.

SOME UNDERGROUND GROUPS INVOLVED IN KIDNAPPING FOREIGNERS IN LEBANON, NAMELY ISLAMIC JIHAD AND THE REVOLUTIONARY JUSTICE ORGANIZATION ARE BELIEVED TO BE CODE-NAMES USED BY HEZBOLLAH.

RGDS

BEIRUT

1437G 21 01 87

==

RR0157

Background on Hezbollah (file)

U I N518 01 BTD

MSG== NY CABLES

EMFT.HEZBOLLAH QUEERY 2

-THE MAJORITY OF SOUTH LEBANON'S POPULATION, MAINLY IN THE LARGE TOWNS AND WELTHY VILLAGES,SUPPORTS AMAL.

-PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS IN TYRE BELIEVE THAT THE INCREASING IRANIAN INFLUENCE THROUGH HEZBOLLAH COULD LEAD TO A NEW ISRAELI INVASION AND, CONSEQUENTLY, A SYRIAN-ISRAELI CONFRONTATION IN LEBANON.

-THERE IS NO WAY TO ESTIMATE HOW MANY FIHTERS HEZBOLLAH HAS IN THE SOUTH. THE PARTY IS NOT ORGANIZED LIKE OTHER FACTIONS AND ITS OFFICIALS REFUSE TO TALK ABOUT FIGURES.

MHANNA REFUSED TO SAY WHETHER HE HAS BEEN TO IRAN, BUT HE CLEARLY STATED THAT ''I DO NOT KNOW FARSI'' WHILE COMMENTING ON THE MAP OF IRAN AND THE HOUSE WHICH HAD FARSI WRITINGS.

-AMAL OFFICIALS SAY THERE ARE NO IRANIANS IN THE SOUTH. HOWEVER, GROCERS AND BUSINESSMEN IN TYRE SAY THEY HAVE MET ''A FEW FARSI- SPEAKING CUSTOMERS IN THE PAST MONTH.''

-TALKED TO MHANNA CAUSE IS THE MOST FAMOUS-RADICAL AMONG THE HEZBOLLAH CLERGYMEN IN THE SOUTH AND BECAUSE HE WAS LESS SMART AND OTHERS AND WILLING TO SAY ON THE RECORD THAT HE FOLLOWS KHOMEINI'S ORDERS.

END (MS)

BEIRUT

0830 26 09 86

00

ZCZC H520
U 01
.01

HEZBOLLAH

RADICAL SHIITES GAINING POPULARITY IN PEASANT COMMUNITIES

(EMFT ASKED)

BY MOHAMMED SALAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SIDDIQINE, LEBANON (AP) - A SHIITE MOSLEM CLERGYMAN PREACHING THE RULINGS OF IRAN¤S AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI DEMANDED THURSDAY THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.N. PEACEKEEPERS FROM SOUTH LEBANON BECAUSE THEY PREVENT ¤¤MOSLEM HOLY WARRIORS¤¤ FROM ¤¤LIBERATING JERUSALEM.¤¤

THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON HAS ¤¤UNFORTUNATELY TURNED INTO A SHIELD AND PROTECTOR FOR ISRAEL. ITS SOLDIERS PREVENT THE ¤MUJAHIDEEN¤ FROM CARRYING OUT THEIR HOLY DUTY OF LIBERATING JERUSALEM,¤¤ SAID SHEIK ABDUL MONEEM MHANNA.

MUJAHIDEEN IS ARABIC FOR MOSLEM HOLY WARRIORS.

¤¤WE URGE THEIR (UNIFIL) WITHDRAWAL FROM HERE,¤¤ SAID MHANNA, A NATIVE OF SOUTH LEBNANON WHO RUNS AN IRANIAN-SPONSORED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL IN THIS POOR VILLAGE.

¤¤THE ISRAELIS ARE THE OPPRESSORS. AND LIBERATING PALESTINE, THE HOLY LAND, FROM ZIONIST OCCUPATION IS THE DUTY OF ALL MOSLEMS -- THIS IS THE RULING OF IMAM KHOMEINI,¤¤ THE BLACK-TURBANED MHANNA TOLD THIS CORRESPONDENT.

¤¤IMAM KHOMEINI WAS CARRYING OUT A SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE OUTLINED BY ALLAH WHEN HE CALLED UPON US TO STRIKE AT THE OPPRESSORS. WE HAVE THE HONOR OF BELONGING TO IMAM KHOMEINI¤S LINE (OF THOUGHT),¤¤ STRESSED THE BEARDED MHANNA.

MHANNA IS REPUTED TO BE THE SPIRITUAL GUIDE OF THE IRANIAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH IN SIDDIQINE WHICH HAS AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 5,000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY PEASANTS.

SIDDIQINE, 14 KILOMETERS (8 MILES) SOUTH EAST OF THE PORT CITY OF TYRE, HAS BECOME A HEZBOLLAH STRONGHOLD WITHIN UNIFIL¤S AREA OF OPERATIONS.

UNIFIL¤S FIJIAN PEACEKEEPERS MAN A CHECKPOINT TO THE WEST OF THE VILLAGE WHICH, IRONICALLY, WAS THE MAIN BASE IN SOUTH LEBANON FOR THE IRAQI-SPONSORED ARAB SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY BEFORE ISRAEL¤S INVASION IN 1982.

MORE (MS-FN)
NNNN
25SEPT86

S

ZCZC H523
U 01
.01
. SIDDIQINE - HEZBOLLAH 2

NEPALESE PEACEKEEPERS GUARD THE ONE KILOMETER-DEEP TERRAIN WHICH SEPARATES SIDDIQINE FROM ISRAEL¤S SELF-DESIGNATED ¤¤SECURITY ZONE¤¤ TO THE EAST.

¤¤I CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE SIDDIQINE POPULATION SHIFTED FROM THE SECULAR BAATH IDEOLOGY TO KHOMEINI¤S RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS,¤¤ SAID A LOCAL LEBANESE POLICE OFFICER . HE REFUSED TO BE NAMED.

¤¤WE ARE NOT THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE, BUT WE ARE GUARDIANS OF THE ISLAMIC IDEOLOGY,¤¤ MHANNA TOLD THIS CORRESPONDENT IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW.

THE ISLAMIC RESISTANCE IS A CODE NAME USED BY HEZBOLLAH IN CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL IN SOUTH LEBANON.

MHANNA, DRESSED IN A WHITE ROBE, STRESSED THAT ¤¤WE DO NOT ATTACK UNIFIL. WE DO NOT APPROVE OF THEIR PRESENCE, BUT WE DO NOT ATTACK THEM. OUR BATTLE IS WITH THE ZIONISTS (ISRAELIS).¤¤

UNIFIL¤S CONTRIBUTING NATIONS ARE FRANCE, ITALY, FINLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN, FIJI, IRELAND, GHANA AND NEPAL.

MHANNA CLAIMED THAT ISRAEL SHELLED HIS SCHOOL LAST SATURDAY, WOUNDING 10 OF THE 80 STUDENTS.

¤¤THEY FIRED FOUR WIRE-GUIDED MISSILES INTO OUR SCHOOL,¤¤ MHANNA SAID. THREE OF THE MISSILES DIRECTLY HIT THE THREE-STORY COMPOUND INFLICTING SEVERE DAMAGE, HE ADDED.

¤¤THE ZIONISTS KNOW THAT WE DO NOT HAVE WEAPONS HERE, BUT WE HAVE THE ISLAMIC BELIEF WHICH CALLS FOR JIHAD (HOLY WAR) AGAINST THE OCCUPIERS,¤¤ HE SAID. A COLOR PORTRAIT OF KHOMEINI IN A GOLDEN FRAME HUNG OVER HIS HEAD.

¤¤HEZBOLLAH IS THE CONQUEROR,¤¤ READ AN ARABIC-LANGUAGE SIGN UNDER THE PICTURE IN MHANNA¤S OFFICE.

NEXT TO THE PORTRAIT WAS A SMALL MAP OF IRAN, A CARTOON IN WHICH A STONE FENCE PROTECTED THE NATION FROM AN ATTACK BY A HORSE WHOSE SADDLE COVERED IN THE AMERICAN. THE HORSE¤S TAIL WAS MADE OF THE SOVIET HAMMER AND SICKLE.

MORE (MS-FM)
NNNN
25SEPT86

S

S 25SEPT86
ZCZC H525
U 01
.01

SIDDIQINE - HEZBOLLAH 3

ªªTHE HORSE IS MEANT TO BE THE ARABS WHO ARE ATTACKING THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC -- WHICH WILL NOT BE CONQUERED BECAUSE ALLAH IS GUARDING IT,ªª MHANNA EXPLAINED.

HEZBOLLAHªS INFLUENCE HAS BEEN RECENTLY INCREASING IN SOUTH LEBANON TO THE DISMAY OF JUSTICE MINISTER NABIH BERRIªS MAINSTREAM SHIITE AMAL MILITIA.

THE RADICAL FACTION IS GAINING POPULARITY IN THE LOW-INCOME VILLAGES LIKE SIDDIQINE WHICH HAS ONE INTERMEDIARY SCHOOL, A PHARMACY AND ONE POORLY-EQUIPPED CLINIC MANNED BY PART-TIME PHYSICIANS.

THE LARGE WEALTHY TOWNS, WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING, SUPPORT AMAL.

IMAM MOUSSA SADR, THE SPIRITUAL HEAD OF LEBANONªS SHIITE COMMUNITY, FOUNDED AMAL IN THE EARLY 1970S. HE MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED DURING A VISIT TO LIBYA IN SEPTEMBER 1978. HE HAS SINCE BECAME A SYMBOL FOR AMAL.

SIDDIQINEªS 500-METER (YARDS) MAIN STREET HAS 16 LARGE POSTERS OF KHOMEINI COMPARED TO A LONE POSTER OF SADR IDENTIFYING HIM AS ªªONE OF THE GREAT DISCIPLES OF IMAM KHOMEINI.ªª

HOWEVER, SADRªS POSTERS ARE EVERYWHERE IN THE TOWN OF QANA, TWO KILOMETERS (1.2 MILES) WEST OF SIDDIQINE.

IN CONTRAST WITH SIDDIQIN, QANAªS 20,000 PEOPLE ENJOY THE SERVICES OF A GOVERNMENT-RUN SECONDARY SCHOOL, THREE PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, A HOSPITAL, SIX CLINICS AND AT LEAST A DOZEN PHARMACIES. IT EVEN HAS A VIDEO CASETTE CLUB WHICH IS BANNED IN RELIGIOUS SIDDIQINE.

MORE (MS-FN)
NNNN
25SEPT86

S

ZCZC H526
U 01
.01

SIDDIQINE - HEZBOLLAH 4

REGIONAL POLICE OFFICERS AGREE THAT HEZBOLLAH STRONGHOLDS IN SOUTH LEBANON ARE THE VILLAGES OF SIDDIQINE, RAS EL-AIN, AITEET, DEIR QANOUN EL-NAHER AND JIBSHEET.

THE FIVE VILLAGES HAVE A JOINT POPULATION OF ABOUT 20,000, MAINLY PEASANTS AND CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

HEZBOLLAH DOES NOT HAVE PUBLIC OFFICES IN THE SOUTH. RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS OR MOSQUES IN THE FIVE VILLAGES ARE THE MAIN CENTERS WHERE THE CLERGYMEN EXPLAIN TO THEIR FOLLOWERS KHOMEINIaS TEACHINGS, THE OFFICERS SAY.

THE MAIN LINE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AMAL AND HEZBOLLAH IS aaTHE QUESTION OF LIBERATION,aa MHANNA SAID.

aaAMAL ONLY WANTS TO LIBERATE THE SOUTH FROM ISRAELI OCCUPATION. WE WANT TO CARRY OUT OUR RELIGIOUS DUTY OF LIBERATING THE WHOLE OF THE HOLY LAND IN PALESTINE FROM ZIONIST OCCUPATION,aa MHANNA DECLARED.

RADICAL PRO-IRANIAN SHIITE MILITIAMEN HAVE BEEN BLAMED BY LEBANESE SECURITY SOURCES FOR THE SPATE OF GUN AND BOMB ATTACKS ON UNIFIL WHICH KILLED FIVE PEACEKEEPRS AND WOUNDED 41 IN THE PAST SIX WEEKS.

END (MS-FN)

NNNN

25SEPT86

S

R1865 3 I 264 BE912

LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH

PARTY OF GOD BACKGROUND

BY FAROUK NASSAR

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - SHIITE MOSLEM ZEALOTS WHO STORMED AND RANSACKED THE MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN WEST BEIRUT FRIDAY ARE FIGHTING FOR AN ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN LEBANON PATTERNED AFTER AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI'S REVOLUTION IN IRAN.

THEY BELONG TO HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, LEBANON'S MOST MILITANT SHIITE FACTION THAT STAGED THE EMBASSY ATTACK TO PROTEST KING HASSAN II'S SUMMIT TALKS IN MOROCCO WITH ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER SHIMON PERES.

LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE PARTY'S SECRECY-SHROUDED INFRASTRUCTURE. INFORMANTS, HOWEVER, SAY KHOMEINI HIMSELF IS THE OVERALL HEAD OF THE PARTY AND HE PERSONALLY APPOINTS THE CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL HEZBOLLAH LEADERS IN LEBANON.

ALTHOUGH HEZBOLLAH PUBLICLY DISCLAIMS ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ORDEAL OF WESTERN HOSTAGES HELD IN LEBANON, IT IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO BE THE MOVING FORCE BEHIND THE KIDNAPPERS.

ISLAMIC JIHAD, THE SHADOWY GROUP THAT CLAIMS TO HOLD FIVE AMERICANS AND FOUR FRENCHMEN KIDNAPPED IN BEIRUT IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, IS GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE A TERRORIST HEZBOLLAH ARM.

HEZBOLLAH DERIVED ITS NAME FROM A VERSE IN THE KORAN, ISLAM'S HOLY BOOK, THAT SAYS: ''THE PARTY OF GOD ARE THE VICTORS.''

THE GROUP FIRST SURFACED IN IRAN, WHEN KHOMEINI'S FUNDAMENTALISTS CAMPAIGNED TO OUST MODERATE IRANIAN PRESIDENT ABUL HASSAN BANI-SADR IN 1981.

HEZBOLLAH BOUNCED ON THE LEBANESE SCENE RIGHT AFTER THE 1982 ISRAELI INVASION. IT CHAMPIONED THE PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE FOR NATIONHOOD AND VOWED A HOLY WAR AGAINST ISRAEL UNTIL ''THE JEWISH ENTITY IS WIPED OUT OF EXISTENCE.''

MORE (FN-HJ)

251938 JUL 86

RT669 3 I 249 BE313

BEIRUT - LEBANON-HEZBOLLAH 2

U.S. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES HAVE LINKED HEZBOLLAH WITH THE SUICIDE BOMBING ATTACKS ON THE AMERICAN EMBASSY BUILDINGS IN 1983 AND 1984 AS WELL AS THE OCTOBER 1983 TWIN TRUCK-BOMBING OF THE U.S. MARINE AND FRENCH PARATROOP HEADQUARTERS IN BEIRUT.

HEZBOLLAH OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN SHEIKH IBRAHIM AL-AMIN TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE LAST YEAR THAT THE PARTY'S MAIN OBJECTIVE WAS TO FORCE ''AMERICAN TO LEAVE LEBANON FOR GOOD.'

THE OTHER TWO OBJECTIVES, HE SAID, WERE TO WIPE ISRAEL OUT OF EXISTANCE AND BRING LEBANESE PRESIDENT AMIN GEMAYEL'S RIGHTIST CHRISTIAN PHALANGE PARTY TO TRIAL FOR ITS PRO-ISRAELI POLICIES.

HEZBOLLAH REJECTS CHRISTIAN DOMINANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT, PARLIAMENT AND ARMY IN LEBANON. IT CONTENDS MOSLEMS, WHO MAKE UP A 55 PERCENT MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION AMONG LEBANON'S FOUR MILLION INHABITANTS, SHOULD TAKE OVER THE REIGNS OF POWER ALTOGTHER.

THE PARTY CLASHES ON THIS COUNT WITH JUSTICE MINISTER NABIH BERRI'S MAINSTREAM AMAL SHIITE MILITIA, WHICH ADVOCATES A COMPROMISE ON AN EQUAL POWER SHARING FORMULA.

HEZBOLLAH ALSO CHAMPIONS THE PALESTINIAN RIGHT TO WAGE GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST ISRAEL FROM SOUTH LEBANON. AMAL IS DETERMINED TO PREVENT THE PALESTINIANS FROM REGAINING THE POWER BASE THEY LOST IN THE ISRAELI INVASION.

HEZBOLLAH'S MILITARY STRENGTH IS CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO STAND AT 2,000 MILITIAMEN. AMAL BOASTS IT FIELDS 8,000 FIGHTERS IN LEBANON'S 11-YEAR-OLD WAR AGAINST THE CHRISTIANS.

END (FN-HJ)

ITEM STORED AS: BE909 BE1 00234 I 25-07 1923 BEIRUT LEBANON HEZBOLLAH 2 U.S.

251541 JUL 86

RR133

D H504 01 888 [illegible] +0+

KIDNAPPINGS

FADLALLAH - Pers.

(WITH LEBANON)

ISLAMIC LEADER CONDEMNS KIDNAPPINGS

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - SHEIK HUSSEIN FADLALLAH, SPIRITUAL GUIDE OF LEBANON'S SHIITE MOSLEMS, HAS CONDEMNED THE KIDNAPPING OF FOREIGNERS IN LEBANON, NEWSPAPERS REPORTED FRIDAY.

FADLALLAH, WHO HEADS THE RADICAL SHIITE ''HEZBOLLAH,'' OR PARTY OF GOD, CALLED ON MOSLEMS TO PROTECT DIPLOMATS AND NEWSMEN ''WHO DO NOT HARM THE SECURITY AND LIVES OF THE PEOPLE.''

HE DECLARED: ''I CONDEMN ALL KINDS OF KIDNAPPING BY ANY GROUP, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT AFFECT HUMANITARIAN INSTITUTIONS WHICH ARE WORKING TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING OF AFFLICTED PEOPLE.''

FADLALLAH ALSO CRITICIZED POOR DISCIPLINE AMONG MILITIAMEN WHO CONTROL MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT.

FADLALLAH MADE HIS COMMENTS SHORTLY BEFORE KIDNAPPERS FREED IRISHMAN AIDAN WALSH, 46, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY, THURSDAY NIGHT.

WALSH, WHO HAD BEEN HELD FOR 36 HOURS BY AN UNKNOWN GROUP OF GUNMEN, HAD BEEN BEATEN, BUT WAS NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED. IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER HIS RELEASE WAS LINKED TO FADLALLAH'S COMMENTS.

FADLALLAH'S REMARKS COINCIDED WITH THE PUBLICATION OF A ''FINAL WARNING'' BY THE SHADOWY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR HOLY WAR GROUP, OF ''CATASTROPHIC CONSEQUENCES'' FOR AT LEAST SIX WESTERNERS IT IS HOLDING HOSTAGE IF CONVICTED BOMBERS HELD IN KUWAIT ARE NOT FREED.

STATEMENTS BY ISLAMIC JIHAD, A FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE GROUP, PUBLISHED IN BEIRUT NEWSPAPERS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS OF FOUR AMERICANS AND TWO FRENCHMEN IT IS HOLDING.

ALTHOUGH FADLALLAH HAS CONDEMNED ABDUCTIONS IN THE PAST, IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND JOURNALISTS.

BOTH HAVE BEEN THE MAIN TARGET OF KIDNAPPERS IN THE LATEST SPATE OF ABDUCTIONS IN WEST BEIRUT.

END (JCG-EB)

08320 17 05 85

2

Terr Grps

RR131

R I BEB583 01 888 PSR ADR 44

HEZBOLLAH

SYRIAN PRESIDENT MEETS HEZBOLLAH DELEGATION

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD HAS MET WITH SENIOR LEADERS OF THE FUNDAMENTALIST SHIITE MOSLEM HEZBOLLAH, THE GROUP BELIEVED TO BE LINKED TO THE KIDNAPPING OF SEVEN AMERICANS AND FOUR FRENCHMEN IN LEBANON.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID ASSAD'S TALKS ON SUNDAY WITH THE DELEGATION OF THE PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, FOCUSED ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON, WHERE THE ISRAELIS MAINTAIN A BORDER BUFFER ZONE.

THE DELEGATION INCLUDED SHEIK SOBHI TOFEILI, HEZBOLLAH LEADER IN THE EAST LEBANON TOWN OF BAALBEK= HUSSEIN MUSAWI, LEADER OF THE RADICAL ISLAMIC AMAL FACTION= SHEIK IBRAHIM AL-AMIN, HEZBOLLAH'S OFFICIAL IN BEIRUT= AND HUSSEIN AL-KHALIL, A GROUP LEADER IN SOUTH LEBANON.

THEY WERE IN DAMASCUS ATTENDING IRANIAN-SPONSORED RECONCILIATION TALKS WITH DELEGATES OF LEBANON'S MAINSTREAM SHIITE AMAL MILITIA, WHICH HAS BEEN AT ODDS WITH HEZBOLLAH. THE TALKS ON SATURDAY WERE HEADED BY IRAN'S AMBASSADOR TO DAMASCUS, ALI AKBAR MOHTASHEMI.

SANA DID NOT SAY WHETHER ASSAD ALSO DISCUSSED THE FATE OF THE 11 AMERICANS AND FRENCHMEN ABDUCTED IN BEIRUT SINCE MARCH 1984.

ASSAD HAD SAID EARLIER THAT SYRIA WAS TRYING TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF THE WESTERNERS. AMONG THEM IS TERRY A. ANDERSON, THE CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS ABDUCTED IN BEIRUT ON MARCH 16.

THE SHADOWY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, BELIEVED TO BE MADE UP OF PRO-IRANIAN SHIITES, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF THE 11 FOREIGNERS.

THE GROUP DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF 17 COMRADES CONVICTED IN KUWAIT FOR BOMBING THE U.S. AND FRENCH EMBASSIES THERE IN DECEMBER 1983.

END (SG-JCG-EB)

0815G 09 09 85

Hezbollah

AR123
R BEA616 01 888 PSP ADR 44
HEZBOLLAH-BOMBINGS

TOP HEZBOLLAH OFFICIAL HINTS AT U.S. BOMBINGS LINKS

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - A LEADER OF THE SHIITE MOSLEM HEZBOLLAH HAS STRONGLY HINTED THAT THE GROUP WAS INVOLVED IN THE SUICIDE BOMBINGS OF U.S., FRENCH AND ISRAELI TARGETS IN LEBANON IN WHICH 400 PEOPLE WERE KILLED, THE AN-NAHAR NEWSPAPER SAID THURSDAY.

THE INDEPENDENT DAILY QUOTED SHEIK SOBHI TOFEILI, ONE OF THE TOP OFFICIALS OF THE RADICAL, PRO-IRANIAN HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, IN LEBANON AS HAILING THE BOMBERS AS ''HOLY WARRIOR HEROES'' WHO ACTED IN THE NAME OF ISLAM.

HE WAS SPEAKING TO A GROUP OF WORSHIPPERS IN EAST LEBANON'S BEKAA VALLEY TOWN OF BAALBEK IN A MEMORIAL CEREMONY FOR THREE IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS KILLED IN LEBANON.

THE IRANIANS HAVE MAINTAINED A TOKEN FORCE NEAR BAALBEK IN THE SYRIAN-CONTROLLED BEKAA SINCE ISRAEL'S JUNE 6, 1982 INVASION OF LEBANON.

TOFEILI SAID: ''OUR BROTHERS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS CAME TO LEBANON AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ISRAELI INVASION...THEY CAME TO DECLARE, IN ACTION, THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE BELIEVERS.

''THEY PUT THEIR HANDS IN THE HANDS OF OTHERS AND WITH HEZBOLLAH. THEY ALONE HAD THE HONOR OF BEATING ISRAEL, THE AMERICANS AND THE FRENCH.''

''THE NAMES OF MANY OF THE MUJAHEDEEN (HOLY WARRIORS) HEROES WHO KNOCKED DOWN THE FORTRESSES OF THE INFIDELS AND BLEW UP THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TWICE AS WELL AS AMERICAN, FRENCH AND ISRAELI (MILITARY INSTALLATIONS) ARE STILL UNKNOWN,'' HE SAID.

''THEIR ACTIONS WERE FOR THE SAKE OF ISLAM. WE MUST PRESERVE THEIR BLOOD AND LET THE WORLD AND HISTORY BE AWARE THAT ISLAM IS THE ONE THAT DESTROYED ISRAEL AND AMERICA,'' HE ADDED.

MORE (SG-EB)

0929G 15-08-85

*P131
R BEA617 01 BIB FSR ADR 44
BEIRUT - HEZBOLLAH-BOMBINGS 2

TOFEILI'S COMMENTS WERE THE STRONGEST HINT BY A HEZBOLLAH OFFICIAL IN LEBANON THAT THE GROUP WAS CONNECTED WITH THE BOMBINGS.

THE BOMBINGS INCLUDE THE NOV. 4, 1983, ATTACK ON AN ISRAELI ARMY BASE IN THE SOUTHERN PORT OF TYRE IN WHICH 28 ISRAELIS WERE KILLED WITH 32 LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS.

ON APRIL 18, 1983, A SUICIDE DRIVER BLEW UP HIS EXPLOSIVE-PACKED CAR OUTSIDE THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT KILLING 63 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 17 AMERICANS.

ON OCT.23, 1983, SUICIDE BOMBERS DEVASTATED THE U.S. MARINE HEADQUARTERS IN WEST BEIRUT AS WELL AS A FRENCH PARATROOPER BASE. THE BLAST KILLED 242 AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND 58 FRENCHMEN.

ON SEPT.20, 1984, A SUICIDE DRIVER RAMMED A BOMB-RIGGED VAN INTO THE U.S. EMBASSY ANNEX IN CHRISTIAN EAST BEIRUT, KILLING 14 PEOPLE, INCLUDING TWO AMERICANS.

HEZBOLLAH MEMBERS WERE WIDELY BELIEVED TO HIJACKED A TWA JETLINER LAST JUNE AND HELD 39 AMERICANS HOSTAGE FOR 17 DAYS.

THE SHADOWY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOST OF THE SUICIDE ATTACKS AS WELL KIDNAPPING SEVEN AMERICANS AND FOUR FRENCHMEN IN LEBANON.

THE KIDNAPPERS ARE DEMANDING KUWAIT RELEASE 17 COMRADES CONVICTED OF BOMBING THE U.S. AND FRENCH EMBASSIES IN THE OIL-RICH GULF NATION IN DECEMBER 1983.

THE GROUP IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO HAVE LINKS WITH HEZBOLLAH AND OTHER SHIITE FUNDAMENTALISTS.

END (SG-EB)

0943B 15 08 85

@@

Hezbollah

AAKAP
a BEC001 01 888 PSR ADR 8TW
LEAD LEBANON
W0015
EDS: HEZBOLLAH WARNS KUWAIT, NEW GOVERNMENT EXPECTED

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - A SHIITE MOSLEM EXTREMIST GROUP BELIEVED CONNECTED WITH THE GUNPOINT KIDNAPPINGS OF AMERICANS AND FRENCHMEN IN LEBANON ISSUED A WARNING TO KUWAIT FRIDAY AGAINST DEPORTING LEBANESE SHIITES FROM THE OIL-RICH PERSIAN GULF ARAB STATE.

THE WARNING WAS PUBLISHED BY BEIRUT NEWSPAPERS HOURS AFTER THE RELEASE OF ROBERT P. BURKHOLDER, 30, CANADIAN ADMINISTRATOR OF A RELIEF AGENCY IN SOUTH LEBANON, FROM 12 HOURS OF CAPTIVITY BY UNIDENFIED LEBANESE KIDNAPPERS.

IT ALSO CONCIDED WITH REPORTS IN THE BEIRUT PRESS THAT A HALF-CHRISTIAN, HALF-MOSLEM NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD SHORTLY BE FORMED TO INTRODUCE POLITICAL REFORMS AIMED AT ENDING LEBANON'S 10-YEAR-OLD CIVIL WAR.

THE WARNING FROM HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD, CAME IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN EAST LEBANON'S BEKAA VALLEY TOWN OF BAALBAK AND WAS PUBLISHED BY BEIRUT'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER AN-NAHAR AND OTHERS.

THE STATEMENT ACCUSED THE KUWAITI GOVERNMENT OF EMIR JABER AL-AHMED AL-SABAH OF, WHO SURVIVED A CAR-BOMB ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT LAST MAY, OF DEPORTING HUNDREDS OF LEBANESE SHIITES IN RECENT WEEKS.

''THIS IS AN INTOLERABLE REPRESSION OF TOILING MOSLEMS,'' THE STATEMENT SAID. ''THESE PRACTICES SHOULD STOP. WE SHALL ALWAYS BE ON THE SIDE OF THE OPPRESSED IN KUWAIT AND SHALL SUPPORT THEIR STEADFASTNESS.''

THE KUWAITI GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY DENIED REPORTS OF MASS DEPRTATION OF SHIITES. BUT LEBANON'S JUSTICE MINISTER NABIH BERRI, HEAD OF THE DOMINANT SHIITE AMAL MILITIA, AND OTHER SHIITE RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL LEADERS INSIST THAT ''HUNDREDS'' OF LEBANESE SHIITES HAVE BEEN DEPORTED FROM KUWAIT SINCE THE JUNE HIJACK OF THE TWA JETLINER TO BEIRUT BY SHIITE SKY PIRATES.

MORE (FN)

07536 09 08 85

RR099
Q BEC002 01 008 FGR ADF BTM
BEIRUT - LEAD LEBANON 2

KUWAIT HAS REFUSED TO RELEASE ABOUT 17 SHIITES CONVICTED OF BOMBING THE U.S. AND FRENCH EMBASSIES IN KUWAIT IN DECEMBER, 1983.

THEIR RELEASE HAS BEEN A PRE-CONDITION SET BY THE SHADOWY ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, ORGANIZATION TO FREE AMERICAN AND FRENCH KIDNAP VICTIMS IT CLAIMS TO HOLD IN LEBANON.

ISLAMIC JIHAD HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN LINKED BY THE ARAB AND WESTERN PRESS TO HEZBOLLAH'S GROUP IN THE BEKAA VALLEY.

THERE ARE SEVEN AMERICAN AND FOUR FRENCH KIDNAP VICTIMS IN LEBANON. AMONG THEM IS TERRY A. ANDERSON, CHIEF MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. TWO OF THEM HAVE BEEN IN CAPTIVITY FOR MORE THAN A YEAR.

BURKHOLDER, THE LATEST KIDNAP VICTIM, WAS RELEASED IN SOUTH LEBANON'S PORT CITY OF SIDON THURSDAY NIGHT, 12 HOURS AFTER HE WAS ABDUCTED FROM THE SOUTH LEBANESE MARKET TOWN OF NABATIYEH.

HE HAS WORKED IN NABATIYEH FOR THREE YEARS, LEBANON'S POLICE CHIEF MAJ. GEN. OSMAN OSMAN TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

OSMAN SAID HE HAD NO FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT BURKHOLDER'S ABDUCTION. BUT AN OSMAN AIDE, WHO SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY, SAID THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN SYRIA WAS ARRANGING FOR BURKHOLDER'S DEPARTURE FROM BEIRUT ON FRIDAY.

THE CANADIAN PRESS NEWS AGENCY EARLIER QUOTED THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY IN OTTAWA AS CONFIRMING BURKHOLDER'S RELEASE.

LEBANON'S STATE RADIO QUOTED BURKHOLDER AS SAYING AFTER HIS RELEASE THAT HIS KIDNAPPERS ''WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NATURE OF MY WORK IN SOUTH LEBANON, AND I GLADLY TOLD THEM. I THINK I WAS HELD FOR QUESTIONING, NOT KIDNAPPED.''

MORE (FN-EB)

0846G 09 06 85

OH

PR109

0 BEC005 01 888 PSR ADR BTM

BEIRUT - LEAD LEBANON 3

THE RADIO DID NOT SAY HOW IT OBTAINED THE STATEMENT FROM BURKHOLDER, AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SOUTH LEBANON PROJECT OF THE MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, A NORTH AMERICAN RELIEF ORGANIZATION.

ON THE FORMATION OF A NEW LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, AN-NAHAR SAID THE MOVE WAS AGREED IN SUMMIT TALKS PRESIDENT AMIN GEMAYEL HELD IN DAMASCUS THURSDAY WITH HIS SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, LEBANON'S MAIN POWER BROKER.

IT SAID THE NEW CABINET WOULD BE MADE UP OF 24 MEN REPRESENTING THE NATION'S MAIN SECTARIAN LEADERSHIPS AND WOULD SERVE AS A ''CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WITHIN WHICH REFORMS WILL BE NEGOTIATED.''

THE CURRENT NINE-MAN CABINET UNDER SYRIAN-BACKED SUNNI MOSLEM PRIME MINISTER RASHID KARAMI HAS BEEN WIDELY CRITICISED FOR FAILING TO BRING ABOUT ANY MEANINGFUL REFORMS.

IT HAD BEEN UNABLE EVEN TO MEET FOR THE LAST FOUR MONTHS BECAUSE MOSLEM AND CHRISTIAN MINISTERS ARE AFRAID TO CROSS INTO EACH OTHER'S TERRITORY.

THE MOSLEMS, WHO MAKE UP 55 PERCENT OF LEBANON'S 4 MILLION POPULATION, ARE DEMANDING AN EQUAL SHARE OF POWER AS A PRECONDITION TO END THE CIVIL WAR.

THE CHRISTIANS HAVE DOMINATED THE GOVERNMENT, ARMY AND PARLIAMENT SINCE LEBANON'S INDEPENDENCE FROM FRANCE IN 1943.

END (FN-EB)

0916G 09 08 85

88

a0150

U I013 01 888

BEIRUT - LEBANON-ISRAEL 2

THE RAID ON ZRARIYEH WAS THE LATEST IN A SERIES THAT BEGAN FEB. 20 WHEN THE ISRAELI ARMY OPENED A NEW CAMPAIGN TO STEM THE INCREASING GUERRILLA ATTACKS ON ITS OCCUPYING FORCE IN SOUTH LEBANON. MOST OF THE ATTACKS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY SHIITES, WHO MAKE UP A MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION IN THE OCCUPIED AREA.

THE ISRAELI MILITARY COMMAND IN TEL AVIV SAID THAT ON WEDNESDAY, TWO ROCKETS WERE FIRED AT AN ISRAELI COMMAND POST NEAR THE SOUTH LEBANON VILLAGE OF HASBAIYA, CAUSING NO CASUALTIES.

FOUR OTHER ATTACKS HAD BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRECEDING 24 HOURS, THE COMMAND SAID. THESE INCLUDED SMALL ARMS FIRE THAT KILLED TWO SOLDIERS AND WOUNDED TWO OTHERS NEAR THE ISRAELIS' MAIN KASMIYEH BRIDGE CHECKPOINT TO THE OCCUPIED SOUTH. ANOTHER SOLDIER WAS WOUNDED WHEN A CAR EXPLODED NEAR AN ISRAELI CONVOY SOUTH OF THE INLAND TOWN OF JEZZINE. ISRAELI RADIO DESCRIBED IT AS A SUICIDE CAR BOMB.

AN ANONYMOUS CALLER TOLD A NEWSPAPER IN BEIRUT THAT THE CAR HAD BEEN DRIVEN BY A MAN NAMED MAJDI ASSAIEDH, ABOUT 18, WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE ''LEBANESE NATIONAL RESISTANCE MOVEMENT.'' THE GROUP HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR NUMEROUS ATTACKS AGAINST THE ISRAELIS.

TWELVE ISRAELI SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND 14 WOUNDED IN A MASSIVE CAR BOMB ATTACK SUNDAY JUST NORTH OF THE ISRAEL-LEBANON BORDER.

IN BEIRUT, U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS DENIED SOME REPORTS IN THE UNITED STATES THAT DIPLOMATS HAD BEEN EVACUATED TO CHRISTIAN AREAS OF LEBANON.

''I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY EXCEPT THAT WE ARE KEEPING THE SITUATION UNDER CLOSE REVIEW,'' SAID AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL WHO ASKED THAT HIS NAME NOT BE USED. HE ADDED, ''THERE ARE NO ORDERS FOR EVACUATION.''

MORE (EAP-OBL)

10380 13 03 85

AA152

0 H514 OL 808

BEIRUT -- LEBANON-ISRAEL 3

THE OFFICIAL WAS REACHED BY PHONE AT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN THE CHRISTIAN SUBURB OF YARZE, WHERE MOST U.S. DIPLOMATS HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR THE PAST SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING ATTACKS AND THREATS AGAINST THEM.

ASKED ABOUT REPORTS THAT TWO U.S. WARSHIPS -- THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER EISENHOWER AND THE GUIDED-MISSILE CRUISER MISSISSIPPI -- WERE HEADED TO LEBANON FOR A POSSIBLE EVACUATION, THE OFFICIAL REFERRED TO STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENTS SAYING ONLY THAT THE SHIPS WERE ''IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.''

AN ORGANIZATION CALLED ''AMERICANS FOR JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST,'' WHICH HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN BEIRUT IN RECENT YEARS IN PRO-ARAB CAUSES, ISSUED A STATEMENT TUESDAY CONDEMNING THE U.S. VETO IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

THE STATEMENT SAID THE GROUP'S MEMBERS ''ARE DEEPLY SHOCKED AND DISTURBED BY ANOTHER U.S. VETO AGAINST A MAJORITY'' IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ''WE BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS, FOR MANY YEARS, DISREGARDED ARAB RIGHTS BY CREATING AND SUPPORTING THE ALIEN STATE OF ISRAEL ON ARAB LANDS,'' THE STATEMENT SAID. IT TERMED U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY AS ''DANGEROUS'' AND CALLED FOR ''BALANCE'' IN FUTURE POLICIES.

END (SAF-GOL)

1041G 13 03 85

RR044

D W0047 233

HEZBOLLAH,0253

IRANIAN-INSPIRED ''PARTY OF GOD'' MAKING INROADS IN LEBANON

AN AP SPECIAL REPORT

BY JUAN-CARLOS GUMUCIO

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - THE WALLS ARE PLASTERED WITH THE FROWNING PORTRAIT OF IRANIAN PATRIARCH AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI AND OTHER MOSLEM SHIITE LEADERS -- LIVING, DEAD OR MISSING.

MEN, THEIR PISTOLS AND WALKIE-TALKIES BULGING FROM THEIR OLIVE DRAB FATIGUES, STROLL DOWN MUDDY STREETS LINED WITH BARRELS BEARING THE RED, WHITE AND GREEN COLORS OF THE IRANIAN FLAG.

TRIANGULAR BANNERS HANGING FROM TELEPHONE LINES PROCLAIM ''GOD IS THE MOST GREAT'' IN FLOWING ARABIC CHARACTERS.

IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE SURROUNDING DEVASTATION AND SOME EMPTY LIQUOR BOTTLES LITTERING THE SIDEWALKS, THE PLACE COULD BE TAKEN FOR A VILLAGE STREET IN REVOLUTIONARY IRAN.

BUT THE SCENES ARE IN THE SLUMS OF WEST BEIRUT, THE NEW HOME FOR LEBANON'S HEZBOLLAH, THE RADICAL SHIITE MOSLEM ''PARTY OF GOD.''

HEZBOLLAH AND SUCH SIMILARLY OBSCURE MOVEMENTS AS ISLAMIC JIHAD AND ISLAMIC AMAL STAND HERE AS SYMBOLS OF IRAN'S CRUSADE FOR MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE GROUPS, WHICH HAVE BEEN LINKED TO A STRING OF ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACKS IN THE REGION, INCLUDING THE OCT. 23, 1983, SUICIDE TRUCK-BOMBINGS THAT KILLED MORE THAN 300 U.S. AND FRENCH SERVICEMEN IN BEIRUT.

U.S. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN WASHINGTON AND IRANIAN SOURCES IN TEHRAN HAVE SAID THAT ISLAMIC JIHAD, WHICH MEANS ISLAMIC HOLY WAR, MAY JUST BE A CODE NAME USED BY SEVERAL RADICAL SHIITE FACTIONS FOR ATTACKS ON WESTERN INTERESTS.

MORE

0408G 17 11 84

RR045
D W0048 233
BEIRUT - HEZBOLLAH 2,0256

IN THE BEKAA VALLEY IN EASTERN LEBANON, WHERE HEZBOLLAH AND ISLAMIC AMAL SET UP BASES IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, MANY CONSIDER THE TWO GROUPS TO BE THE SAME. ISLAMIC AMAL WAS A SPLINTER FACTION OF LEBANON'S MAIN SHIITE MOSLEM MILITIA, AMAL, WHOSE NAME MEANS HOPE.

NOW, THE TWO GROUPS ARE SEEN AS AN INCREASING CHALLENGE TO THE MORE MODERATE AMAL MOVEMENT, HEADED BY NABIH BERRI, WHO SINCE APRIL HAS ALSO BEEN A MINISTER IN LEBANON'S GOVERNMENT.

THE SIZE, STRUCTURE AND LEADERSHIP OF HEZBOLLAH REMAINS A MYSTERY. SHEIKH MOHAMMED HUSSEIN FADLALLAH, A SHIITE CLERIC, HAS OFTEN BEEN MENTIONED AS THE LEADER, BUT HE HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED THIS.

FOREIGN OBSERVERS HERE ALSO HAVE SAID HEZBOLLAH'S LEADERSHIP IN BEIRUT INCLUDES A YOUNG REVOLUTIONARY LEBANESE KNOWN ONLY AS ABDULLAH.

ABDULLAH IS A STOCKY, BEARDED MAN IN HIS EARLY 30S. HE AGREED TO BE INTERVIEWED LAST WEEK ON A WEST BEIRUT STREET CORNER, JUST OUTSIDE A HEZBOLLAH OFFICE IN THE HAY MADI NEIGHBORHOOD. BUT HE REFUSED TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED, TO HAVE HIS VOICE RECORDED OR TO TALK ABOUT HIS LIFE OTHER THAN TO SAY HE WAS BORN IN SOUTH LEBANON. ''I AM ONLY A SERVANT OF HEZBOLLAH,'' HE SAID.

''OUR POWER IS COMING FROM GOD,'' ABDULLAH SAID AFTER THREE TIMES KISSING A SMALL BOOK WITH A PASSAGE OF THE KORAN WRITTEN IN FARSI.

ABDULLAH'S ANTI-U.S. TIRADES ARE AS STRIDENT AS THOSE FROM HIS FELLOW HEZBOLLAHIS IN KHOMEINI'S IRAN. IN IRAN THE TERM APPLIES TO ALL BELIEVERS IN FUNDAMENTAL ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES.

MORE

0411G 17 11 84

RR046
D W0049 233
BEIRUT - HEZBOLLAH 3,0221

''THE FORCES OF ISLAM WILL KEEP ON DEALING BLOWS AGAINST AMERICA,'' HE SAID. ''AND IF THE AMERICANS TRY TO COUNTERATTACK, WE WILL RETALIATE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES. ...WE WILL TRY TO BLOW UP THE WHITE HOUSE.''

HE ADDED: ''WE ARE ONLY AFRAID OF GOD.''

THE NAME HEZBOLLAH WAS SPECIFICALLY LINKED TO AT LEAST TWO ANONYMOUSLY ISSUED THREATS LAST SUMMER TO KIDNAP AMERICANS WORKING AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN WEST BEIRUT OR TEACHING AT THE NEARBY AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT. THE THREATS OF MASS KIDNAPPINGS WERE NOT CARRIED OUT BUT WERE AMONG THE REASONS MOST AMERICAN DIPLOMATS MOVED TO THE EMBASSY ANNEX IN AUKAR.

NO ONE KNOWS FOR SURE HOW MANY MEMBERS THE RADICAL SHIITE MOSLEM GROUPS HAVE, BUT THEY GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF GROWTH -- OR CERTAINLY A MORE PUBLIC PRESENCE -- WITH AN INCREASING EFFORT TO MAKE THEIR NAME KNOWN.

IN SOME STREETS OF WEST BEIRUT, RED AND WHITE HEZBOLLAH SIGNS HAVE COME TO OUTNUMBER POSTERS OF AMAL AND THE TWO OTHER MAIN MILITIAS IN THE CAPITAL'S MOSLEM SECTOR, THE SUNNI MOURABITOUN AND THE PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST PARTY HEADED BY BERRI'S ALLY, DRUSE LEADER WALID JUMBLATT.

''GOD'S PARTY WILL ALWAYS TRIUMPH,'' READ THE SIGNS. A RAISED ARM CLUTCHING AN ASSAULT RIFLE IS A SLIGHT VARIATION OF THE SYMBOL OF IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS.

MORE

0413G 17 11 84

```
 !"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_@ABCD
EFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^
```

Y VANISHED AFTER A VISIT TO
LIBYA IN 1978.

LEBANON'S HEZBOLLAH POSES A THREAT TO SYRIA'S PEACE EFFORTS IN LEBANON, SINCE IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO BRING ABOUT POLITICAL STABILITY IN WEST BEIRUT WITH RADICAL SHIITE GROUPS STRIVING FOR MORE POWER.

FOREIGN OBSERVERS SAY SYRIA, WHICH HAS BEEN THE MAIN POWER-BROKER IN LEBANON SINCE THE COLLAPSE OF U.S. PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS LAST SPRING, MAY TRY TO CURB FUNDAMENTALISTS.

A HINT OF THIS CAME LAST WEEKEND, WHEN SHIITE RELIGIOUS LEADER FADLALLAH WAS SUMMONED TO DAMASCUS FOR THE SECOND TIME WITHIN WEEKS AMID REPORTS THAT SYRIA WAS TRYING TO HALT THREATS AGAINST AMERICA, WHOSE HELP IT MAY NEED TO GET ISRAEL OUT OF SOUTH LEBANON.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD HAS PLENTY OF OTHER CONCERNS -- HOLDING TOGETHER LEBANON'S FRAGILE GOVERNMENT, HIS OWN COUNTRY'S VOLATILE POLTICS AND THE OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SITUATION -- BUT HE WAS SAID TO HAVE SPENT FOUR HOURS TALKING TO FADLALLAH.

END

0415G 17 11 84

RR324
Q H549 01 888
4TH LEAD LEBANON (2ND NL)
EDS: INCORPORATES ATTACK ON SAUDI EMBASSY
BY FAROUK NASSAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Hezbollah

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) -- RADICAL SHIITE MOSLEMS RANSACKED THE CONSULAR SECTION AT THE SAUDI ARABIAN EMBASSY COMPOUND FRIDAY HOURS AFTER A ROCKET ATTACK ON THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN MOSTLY MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT.

IN BETWEEN THE TWO INCIDENTS, THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED IT WAS REQUESTING A U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE OF ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION IN AN EFFORT TO END ''FASCIST PRACTICES'' AGAINST SOUTH LEBANON'S POPULATION.

AN UNDERGROUND GROUP INVOLVED IN GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST THE ISRAELI ARMY CLAIMED THE OVERNIGHT ROCKETING OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY, WHICH CAUSED DAMAGE TO THE VISA SECTION BUT NO CASUALTIES.

THE ATTACK ON THE SAUDI EMBASSY IN WEST BEIRUT'S MANARA RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD WAS STAGED BY ANGRY DEMONSTRATORS FROM HEZBOLLAH, OR PARTY OF GOD. THEY TORE DOWN KING FAHD'S PORTRAITS AND HUNG, INSTEAD, PICTURES OF IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY PATRIARCH AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI.

THE ATTACKERS LEFT THE TWO-STORY BUILDING WITH ITS WINDOWS SHATTERED AND ITS FILES SCATTERED AND BURNING ON THE STREET. THEY THEN MARCHED THROUGH THE STREETS OF WEST BEIRUT, CHANTING ''VICTORY TO ISLAM, DEATH TO ISRAEL.''

MORE (FN-GGL)
1634G 24 08 84

RR387
Q H556 01 888
BEIRUT - 4TH LEAD LEBANON (2ND NL) 3 (REOPENS H550)

LATE FRIDAY, MEANWHILE, A BRIEF BATTLE BROKE OUT OVER A PARKING SPACE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE SHIITE ''AMAL'' MILITIA AND KIGHTERS OF THE DRUSE PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST PARTY, ACCORDING TO POLICE SOURCES.

THE SOURCES, WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED, SAID ONE PERSON WAS KILLED AND THREE WOUNDED WHEN THE ARGUMENT DEVELOPED IN BEIRUT'S OLD COMMERCIAL SECTOR, LARGELY DESTROYED IN THE 1975-76 ROUND OF THE CIVIL WAR. THE SOURCES SAID THEY DID NOT KNOW A EN OF THE VICTIMS BELONGED TO AMAL AND WHICH TO THE PSP.

A 10-SECOND, 2ND GRAF 3RD LEAD LEBANON (NL), H534

END (GGL)

1816G 24 08 84

```
RR326
     Q H550 01 000
   BEIRUT -- 4TH LEAD LEBANON (2ND NL) 2
   A MAN WHO TOOK PART IN THE MARCH TOLD REPORTERS THAT ''HEZBOLLAH''
HAD ATTACKED THE BUILDING TO PROTEST AGAINST REFUSAL OF THE SAUDIS
TO GRANT VISAS TO LEBANESE WANTING TO MAKE THE ANNUAL PILGRIMMAGE
TO MECCA, ISLAM'S HOLIEST CITY IN SAUDI ARABIA.
   SAUDI DIPLOMATS HAD LEFT THE BUILDING AN HOUR BEFORE THE
ATTACK AND LEBANESE SECURITY GUARDS TOOK COVER WHEN THE
ASSAILANTS STORMED IN, MAKING NO EFFORT TO STOP THEM, WITNESSES
SAID. NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED.
   THE ATTACKS WERE THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF THE LAWLESSNESS
PREVAILING IN WEST BEIRUT SINCE DRUSE AND SHIITE MILITIAMEN
WRESTED ITS CONTROL FROM THE LEBANESE ARMY IN LAST FEBRUARY'S
ROUND OF THE LEBANESE CIVIL WAR.
   A 10-SECOND, 2ND GRAF 3RD LEAD LEBANON (NL), H534
   END (FN-GGL)
1636G 24 08 84
```

.RR391

Q H557 01 888

CORRECTION

BEIRUT - 4TH LEAD LEBANON (2ND NL)3, H556, TO FIX TYPO READ IT IN 2ND GRAF XXX DID NOT KNOW WHICH OF THE VICTIMS (STED AS SENT)

AP BEIRUT

1822G 24 08 84

▣▣

RR275

Q H534 01 888

3RD LEAD LEBANON (NIGHT LEAD, NO PICKUP)

EDS: WRAPS UP PREVIOUS, ADDS DETAILS

BY FAROUK NASSAR

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) -- LEBANON ANNOUNCED IT WAS REQUESTING A U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE OF ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION FRIDAY, AND AN UNDERGROUND GROUP INVOLVED IN GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST THE ISRAELI ARMY CLAIMED AN OVERNIGHT ROCKET ATTACK ON THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN BEIRUT.

A 10-SECOND MILD TREMOR SHOOK THE LEBANESE AND JORDANIAN CAPITALS AT MIDMORNING, CAUSING NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES. BUT CRACKED WALLS AND BROKEN WINDOW GLASS WERE REPORTED IN HAIFA, ISRAEL'S THIRD LARGEST CITY WITH A POPULATION OF 250,000, AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE.

POLICE, MEANWHILE, SAID A SYRIAN-BLESSED CEASEFIRE HELD FOR A SECOND DAY ON FRIDAY BETWEEN RIVAL MOSLEM MILITIAS FIGHTING FOR DOMINANCE IN LEBANON'S NORTHERN PORT OF TRIPOLI. POLICE PUT THE FINAL TOLL OF THE FOUR PREVIOUS DAYS OF BATTLES AT 120 KILLED AND 320 WOUNDED.

ON THE POLITICAL FRONT, DRUSE LEADER WALID JUMBLATT TORPEDOED AN EMERGENCY CABINET SESSION THAT PRIME MINISTER RASHID KARAMI HAD SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY TO DISCUSS A STALLED SECURITY PLAN TO RE-ESTABLISH STATE AUTHORITY IN THE CENTRAL LEBANESE MOUNTAINS.

KARAMI ANNOUNCED THE CANCELLATION OF THE SESSION AFTER JUMBLATT DECLARED HE WAS HOLDING THE FUNERAL OF ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF MAJ. GEN. NADIM HAKIM AT THE JUMBLATT FAMILY'S ANCESTRAL HOME IN THE CHOUF MOUNTAIN TOWN OF MOUKHTARA ON SATURDAY.

HAKIM, 55, THE ARMY'S HIGHEST RANKING DRUSE OFFICER, DIED ALONG WITH EIGHT COMPANIONS AND CREWMEN IN A FIERY HELICOPTER CRASH ON A FOG-SHROUDED MOUNTAIN IN NORTH LEBANON'S CHRISTIAN HEARTLAND ON THURSDAY.

MORE (FN-EAP)

1509G 24 08 84

RR299
Q H538 01 888
(REPEATING H537)
BEIRUT -- 3RD LEAD LEBANON (NL) 2

THE LEFTIST BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AS-SAFIR, WHICH IS CLOSE TO JUMBLATT, SAID HE WOULD NOT ALLOW ANY SENIOR CHRISTIAN ARMY OFFICERS TO ATTEND HAKIM'S FUNERAL.

JUMBLATT SAID HE WOULD ALLOW THE LEBANESE ARMY TO CARRY OUT THE MOUNTAIN SECURITY PLAN ONLY WHEN RIGHTIST CHRISTIAN MILITIAMEN ABANDONED THE HIGHWAYS LINKING BEIRUT WITH SYRIAN-CONTROLLED NORTHERN LEBANON AND THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED SOUTHERN THIRD OF THE NATION.

ALTHOUGH JUMBLATT SERVES ALONG WITH OTHER PRINCIPAL WARLORDS IN KARAMI'S HALF-CHRISTIAN, HALF- MOSLEM CABINET, HE HAS STEPPED UP HIS PUBLIC ATTACKS ON PRESIDENT AMIN GEMAYEL AND ON HIS FATHER PIERRE GEMAYEL'S PHALANGE PARTY, THE NATION'S LARGEST CHRISTIAN GROUP.

''WE SHALL NOT ALLOW THEM TO SEND THE ARMY INTO THE DEPTH OF OUR AREAS AND SHALL NOT ABANDON OUR ARMS AS LONG AS THEIR MILITIAS MAINTAIN A DICTATORIAL REIGN IN EAST BEIRUT AND THE CHRISTIAN TERRITORY,'' JUMBLATT SAID IN A STATEMENT BROADCAST BY HIS ''VOICE OF THE MOUNTAIN'' RADIO STATION.

''I PREFER ANARCHY IN WEST BEIRUT OVER DICTATORSHIP, OVER A ONE-PARTY RULE AND OVER A ONE FAMILY REIGN,'' JUMBLATT ADDED.

KARAMI HAD EARLIER SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTED LEBANON6S PERMANENT UNITED NATIONS DELEGATE, RASHID FAKHOURY, (CQ) TO REQUEST A SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION.

HE MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER SEPARATE MEETINGS HERE WITH THE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SOVIET UNION, BRITAIN, FRANCE AND CHINA TO SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE LEBANESE MOVE.

MORE (FN-EAP)
1548G 24 08 84

RR310
Q H542 01 888
REPEATING H540

BEIRUT -- 3RD LEAD LEBANON (NL) 3

''I HAVE SUMMONED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND INFORMED THEM OF WHAT IS HAPPENING FROM THE LEGAL AND HUMANITARIAN STANDPOINTS IN THE SOUTH, WHICH POSE A GRAVE THREAT TO THE LAND AND RESIDENTS,'' KARAMI SAID.

''WE, THEREFORE, DID NOT REQUEST A DEBATE OF THE ISSUE FROM THE POLITICAL ASPECTS, BUT FROM THE PHYSICAL AND HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS IN ORDER TO BRING AN END TO THESE FASCIST PRACTICES, KARAMI ADDED.

KARAMI'S STATEMENT IMPLIED THAT LEBANON WOULD NOT DEMAND A WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL'S 15,000-STRONG OCCUPATION ARMY FROM SOUTH LEBANON, BUT WOULD RATHER PRESS FOR INTERVENTION TO EASE THE HARDSHIPS OF THE ONE MILLION INHABITANTS OF THE REGION.

AN ARABIC-SPEAKING MAN CALLED THE BEIRUT OFFICE OF THE FRENCH NEWS AGENCY AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE FRIDAY AND CLAIMED THE OVERNIGHT ROCKETING OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY FOR THE ''LEBANESE NATIONAL RESISTANCE FRONT.''

THE CALLER CHARGED THE EMBASSY WAS ''FACILITATING THE EMIGRATION OF THE SONS OF SOUTHERN LEBANON AND HELPING ISRAEL TO EMPTY THE REGION OF ITS INHABITANTS,'' ACCORDING TO THE AGENCY.

BRITISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES RICHARD PALMER SAID ONE ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADE CAUSED AMTERIAL DAMAGE TO THE SECOND FLOOR CONSULAR AND VISA SECTION OF THE EMBASSY IN AN 11-STORY SEAFRONT APARTMENT BUILDING AT MOSLTY MOSLEM WEST BEIRUT'S ROUCHE NEIGHBORHOOD
.

THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES, HE SAID.

ANOTHER GRENADE GUTTED THE LIVING ROOM OF THE 3RD FLOOR APARTMENT ABOVE THE VISA SECTOR FLOOR, BUT THE LEBANESE TENANTS WERE OUT AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK AT 1 A.M. (2200GMT THURSDAY).

END (FN-EAP)
1608G 24 08 84

RTT4281 3 i 194
^BC-Lebanon-Hezbollah

^AP Photo<
^Hezbollah chief slams peace efforts, vows continued attacks<

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) _ The Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group marked the fifth anniversary of its leader's assassination Sunday, vowing to continue attacks against Israel.

Sheik Abbas Musawi, Hezbollah's secretary-general, his wife and son were killed in February 1992 when Israeli helicopters fired rockets at his car in southern Lebanon.

``The resistance will continue,'' said Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, Musawi's successor, at the rally attended by several hundred Hezbollah supporters in south Beirut, a Hezbollah stronghold.

He denounced U.S. and European efforts to promote peace in the Middle East.

``Let no one in the Arab world bet on U.S. efforts to achieve peace because they will lose and will be disappointed,'' Nasrallah said.

Only resistance against Israel and not politics, can end its occupation of southern Lebanon, said Nasrallah.

The fundamentalist Shiite Muslim group is leading a guerrilla war to oust Israeli troops and their allied Lebanese militia from a border enclave in south Lebanon.

^hd-sf<

162135 feb 97

RTT2801 4 i 310
^BC-US-Israel-Hezbollah

^Official says Tehran delivering massive arms to Hezbollah through Syria<
^By BARRY SCHWEID=
^AP Diplomatic Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) _ Iran delivered 37 jumbo flights of weapons to Syria, destined for Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon, in the first four months of the year, an Israeli government official said Thursday.

Without providing details, Uri Lubrani, who coordinates Israel's activities in Lebanon, said some of the weapons were much more sophisticated than had been in the hands of the guerrillas previously.

Lubrani, speaking at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a private research group, said the Lebanese army was incapable of controlling Hezbollah, with which Israel has been fighting with the help of a Lebanese militia.

``It's an unwinnable war as long as Iran is there'' to support Hezbollah, the Israeli official said of the cross-border conflict between Hezbollah and Israel.

He said Hezbollah takes it orders from Iran, but could be controlled by Syria if terms of an agreement with Israel were worked out.

Israeli-Syrian negotiations broke down a year ago. American diplomats have not been able to revive the talks. They are concentrating on restarting Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Syria is insisting that Israel relinquish its control of the Golan Heights, a hilly border area that Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

Lubrani declined to say what kind of deal Israel might strike with Damascus. But he said Syria was capable of exerting influence over Hezbollah leaders to force a halt in cross-border attacks on Israel.

At the same time, Lubrani said Russia and China were continuing to provide Iran with nuclear weapons technology. ``We will do our utmost to prevent Iran from getting an unconventional weapon,'' the Israeli official said.

151943 may 97

Hezbollah, August 24, 1984-October 8, 1999. August 24, 1984-October 8, 1999. MS Beirut Bureau: Series I. Wire Copy and Clippings 1975-2008 AP18.18; Box 12, Folder 362. Associated Press Corporate Archives. Associated Press Collections Online, link.gale.com/apps/doc/HCDKER192486112/GDCS?u=loc_main&sid=GDCS&xid=f84b9023&pg=2. Accessed 1 Feb. 2021.